

THE Hongkong Weekly Press

AND China Overland Trade Report.

VOL. LI.]

HONGKONG, SATURDAY, 7TH APRIL, 1900.

No. 14

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DEATHS.

On the 31st March, 8.15 a.m., at the Government Civil Hospital, Hongkong, ALEXANDER LAWSON WALKER, aged 31 years.
At the Hongkong Club, Hongkong, on the 2nd April, HENRY LISON DALRYMPLE, aged 55 years.

ARRIVALS OF MAILS.

The American mail of the 7th March arrived per T. K. K. steamer *America Maru*, on the 4th April (28 days); and the German mail of the 21st February arrived, per N. D. L. steamer *Prinz Heinrich*, on the 5th April (44 days).

EPITOME OF THE WEEK.

In consequence of the recent piracy on the West River the *Tweed* and a torpedo-boat have been ordered to leave for the scene of the occurrence.

From Wuchang comes the news that a prisoner who has attracted a great deal of attention lately, on account of the fact that many believed him actually to be the Emperor, even to the very end, was executed on Sunday, the 25th ult. His head has been stuck up outside the city gate.

It appears that Kwong Yu Pin, the Chinese reformer who was inveigled to Canton, is now safe in Macao, his native place. He reached Canton at night, having at a feast received a warning from some of his Hongkong friends that he had better get away as soon as possible. He took the hint and went to Macao.

The *North China Daily News* of the 28th ult. states that, in reply to a telegraphic enquiry, the news was received by wire on the previous day from Peking, that no violent attempt has been made recently on the life of the Emperor Kwang Hsu, but it is universally believed that he is being made away with by slow poisoning.

Mr. G. D. Scott, Reuter's agent in Shanghai, learns by a message, dated the 27th ult., from Reuter's correspondent at Peking, that the Boxers are giving much trouble round Tientsin and that there has been an indecisive battle in Chihli between 1,500 Chinese troops and as many Boxers, with many casualties on both sides.

The *North China Daily News* announces the receipt on the 30th ult. in Shanghai of a telegram from Seoul from Mr. W. Pritchard-Morgan, M.P., announcing that he was received in special audience by the Emperor of Corea on the 29th instant, and has been appointed by Imperial edict Consul-General in London for the Empire of Corea.

The new railway bridge over the Perak River at Karai, Malaya, was opened by the Resident General, Sir Frank Swettenham, on the 21st ult. Begun in the Diamond Jubilee year and named after Her Majesty, the Victoria Bridge is a very handsome structure with an appearance of strength and lightness which is very striking. It has been erected at a cost of over \$800,000, is of iron lattice girders over a thousand feet long, resting on six brick piers, and the roadway is 40 feet above the ordinary level of the water.

According to news received on the 28th ult. from Peking, two Censurs, evidently inspired, have presented a joint memorial, denouncing the Tsungli Yamen as incapable, and recommending its abolition, all foreign relations to be dealt with in future by the *Li Fan Yuan*, commonly termed the Mongolian Superintendency, but really meaning the Colonial and Tributary Department. In other words, this is a thinly-veiled attempt to relegate once more the Ministers of Foreign Treaty Powers to the grade of Tribute-bearers.

Owing to the increased importance of the Manila station and the recent additions to the United States Squadron in Asiatic waters, the United States Navy Department has decided to keep two admirals in commission with the Eastern fleet. Rear-Admiral Louis Kempff, who has been doing shore duty as commandant of the Navy Yard at Mare Island, California, is ordered to proceed to Manila as second-in-command to Rear-Admiral George C. Remey, recently appointed to succeed Admiral J. C. Watson as commander-in-chief of the Asiatic fleet.

The Return of Cases of Communicable Disease in Hongkong during the week ending 31st March shows four cases of Plague (two in Victoria, two in other districts) and four deaths therefrom; one case and one death from diphtheria; three cases and one death from enteric fever; four cases (three in the Harbour, one outside) and one death from small-pox. The three Harbour cases of the latter disease were imported. During the twenty-four hours which terminated at noon on the 1st instant one fresh case of Plague was reported in the colony, bringing the number of cases from 1st January to twenty-one. The number of deaths remain at nineteen.

The indiscriminate embargo laid upon imports from Japan by the Hawaiian Authorities has, after a very strong remonstrance from Japan to Washington, been removed in favour of a more rational system, which divides imports into three classes; first, those that do not present any danger on medical grounds; secondly, those that are dangerous in respect of their wrappings; and thirdly, those that are dangerous in themselves. If that classification be intelligently applied, the Japanese papers say, there will be no further grounds of protest, but they are of opinion that the Hawaiian Authorities, in their treatment of the matter, have shown more panic than discretion.

A Japanese paper says the Japanese demand for a mining concession in Corea lodged with the Government of that country is not yet making definite progress as in the case of the British demand in connection with the Insan gold mine. The applicants propose to take more decisive measures to achieve their object in the near future.

The *Japan Mail* gives the conditions upon which the Korean Government has agreed to grant a concession of the Insan Gold Mine to Mr. Pritchard Morgan as follows:—First, that mining operations shall be carried on for one year conjointly by the English concessionaire and the Koreans; secondly, that after that period the privilege shall be limited to the Englishman; and thirdly, that even after the conclusion of a year, Koreans shall be employed to work the mine. "If the agreement secured on Mr. Morgan's behalf be of the nature here set forth," says the *Mail*, "we do not see why there should have been so much hesitation in granting it. The English concessionaire would doubtless have been willing to accept such conditions from the outset."

Mr. Werner, acting British Consul at Hangchow, in his report on that port is very guarded. From only two years' statistics it would be unwise, he says, to attempt to predict the future of Hangchow as a port open to foreign trade, especially as it is a place of transit rather than a producing centre. He thinks that the opening of the railroad would to some extent stimulate trade, but only in the case of perishable articles, or if the railway tariff were almost as low as the very cheap charges now made for carriage by boat. On the other hand, if the railway charges for carriage of goods were so low as to undercut the canal traffic, it could scarcely, unless the number of passengers carried were very great, be expected to pay a large dividend, if any at all, for some years to come. The tea and silk of the province of Chekiang being of superior quality, a great increase of trade might be expected from a less biased system of native taxation. Agriculture, too, offers a promising field.

The Tokyo Correspondent of the *Nagasaki Press* announces that the Japanese naval manœuvres commenced on the 25th ult. under the supervision of Admiral Ito. With the exception of two or three men-of-war, such as are stationed in Korea and China, or are cruising in foreign waters, all the vessels in commission and the reserve ships are participating in the manœuvres. The vessels will be put through every phase of tactics connected with blockade, bombardment, torpedo practice, combats between battleships and cruisers, etc., etc. The purpose of the manœuvres is to test the efficiency of the new naval organization, and to afford opportunities to the various commanders to put into practice many new ideas acquired by them during the Spanish-American war. Viewed in this light, the present manœuvres have no political significance. Great secrecy will be observed by the naval authorities to guard against valuable items of information leaking out, or in other words, if the expected results are unsatisfactory, to conceal defects which may reflect on the navy. It is understood that the Navy Department has communicated with the commanders of the foreign squadrons requesting the observance of the zone set apart for the tactical manœuvres.

THE EUROPEAN RESERVATION IN THE CITY OF VICTORIA.

(Daily Press, 3rd April.)

If we are correctly informed, Government has given its sanction to the erection of Chinese houses on the very best portion of the Reclamation, between Pedder street and Icehouse lane. A reference to the Ordinance, No. 16 of 1888, shows that this is within the letter of the law, but not even the late Sir POPE HENNESSEY would have contended that it is in accordance with its spirit. The Preamble to the Ordinance reads:—

"Whereas the health and comfort of Europeans in a tropical climate demand conditions which are inconsistent with the neighbourhood of houses crowded with occupants and otherwise used after the manner customary with the Chinese inhabitants, and whereas the influx of Chinese into the Colony tends constantly to narrow the area of the City of Victoria where such conditions are attainable, and it is desirable to reserve by law a district wherein such conditions may be secured."

Now, if there is one district above all others where it is desirable that such conditions may be secured for all time, it is that occupied by the banks, principal foreign hongs, the leading hotel, clubs, etc., a district up till now exclusively occupied by Europeans, and in which our successors, although we fear not the present generation of residents, may hope to see at some far distant date the principal Government Offices, Supreme Court, Post Office, etc., located; a district which may be described as the hub around which Hongkong revolves, and Hongkong, if its progress continues as it has been doing of late years, is destined to be perhaps the mightiest city in Asia. Shanghai may demur to this remark, and Shanghai, which may justifiably be proud of its progress, has undoubtedly a great future before it; yet we cannot but believe that when the inland waters are really opened to trade—and Mr. BRODRICK's speech in reply to Mr. WALTON, just telegraphed by Reuter, gives us some hope that this may yet be accomplished—when the railway from Kowloon, connecting with the central and eastern trunk lines from south to north of China; and when the line along the course of the West River, connecting with Burmah and the Indian system, are made, Hongkong will stand the better chance of winning in its race with the northern city. Shanghai was formerly greatly helped by the Japan trade and is still by that with Tientsin, but the former is now mostly done direct, and Tientsin will soon declare its independence and carry on its import and export trade with Europe and America direct. Shanghai will never get over the fact that to reach it you have to go up a river and a branch river, while Hongkong is on the seaboard and has no "heaven-sent barrier," although if the dumping of refuse in the harbour is not effectively prevented it soon will have one.

To return to the European reservation in the city of Victoria, we believe there is a vague impression generally held by Europeans that the district from Wyndham and Pedder streets eastward as far as the Naval Yard, from the south to the harbour, is within the reserved area. A reference to the Ordinance will show that this is not correct; nothing north of Icehouse lane and Battery path is within it, and there is nothing to prevent the cricket ground (unless an Ordinance specially exempts it) being built over with Chinese houses, or the Queen's statue and the Club being surrounded by coolie domiciles. This is improbable, but it ought, without a day's delay, to be made impossible.

It is much too late to preserve as such what was originally intended as the European quarter, namely, from Gough street eastward. It is not so many years since the Oriental and Chartered Banks were west of Pottinger street, Gibb's, Johnson's and other big hongs in Gough Street, and Blackhead's store opposite the Fire Brigade station, and since "The Stag" was a first class hotel. But it is not too late to pass an amending Ordinance, drawing the line down the centre of lower Wyndham street and Pedder street, and making the harbour as far as the Naval Yard the northern boundary. This would include any future reclamation, a point worthy of consideration, seeing that the Naval Yard is to be extended six hundred feet beyond the new Praya, and that, in consequence, a bay will be formed in front of the very best part of the city. This bay will in course of time silt up, and a new reclamation from the outermost point of the Naval Yard to about the Central Market will become necessary. It will be seen that no time ought to be lost, and we commend the subject to all those interested in the welfare of the Colony and in the health of the European workers therein, including the officials, be it noted. We recommend it especially to the unofficial members of Council, who will, we trust, move in the matter. That more per foot may be got for land on which Chinese houses can be built is probable, but the Colony is not to be "run" in the immediate interests of property-owners alone. Even they will not gain in the end if the city is rendered unhealthy for Europeans and if rents are raised to such an extent as to affect its prosperity, a point which, indeed, we have already reached.

A JAPANESE VIEW.

(Daily Press, 4th April.)

What may be looked on as an interesting declaration of attitude was set forth recently by a Japanese Liberal organ, the *Jimmin*, in an article dealing with the steady increase of Russian forces in the Far East. The *Jimmin* is disposed to believe that Russia's activity is the outcome of a misconception on her part about Japan's expansion of armament since the war, the object of which is "strictly defensive"; and regrets that the military activity of both Japan and Russia has produced a deep-seated impression in the minds of other nations that a conflict between the two powers is inevitable—an impression which predisposes the outside world to talk of a war "even in connection with trifling causes like the Masampo incident." These words were written, of course, before the announcement that Russia was pressing for a concession at this place. It may well turn out that Japan will not look upon the Masampo incident as so trifling. And it must be remembered that there has been a succession of incidents during the last few months, all tending to increase that bitter feeling between the two countries which was one of Japan's chief inheritances from the war with China. Lately we have seen the Siberian and Saghalien fishery question, and the threatened Japanese reprisals in the shape of a heavy duty on all Russian fish; the Russian tax of 1,000 yen per annum on all godowns used for storing imported tea, a measure aimed at Japanese firms mainly, and numerous little acts in Corea, such as the appointment of a Russian successor to Mr. GREATHOUSE, the retiring adviser, the Russian loan, the first Masampo affair, coupled with the visit of the Russian Naval Commander-in-Chief to Seoul, and the reported attempts to in-

duce Corea to discriminate in favour of Russian imports.

None of these incidents alone, it is true, would furnish a reasonable ground for that disturbance of the peace of the Far East which has been discussed already, it is to be feared, *ad nauseam* by the papers. The Governments of both Russia and Japan have done their utmost to check such talk, both by semi-official denials of the various rumours and by studious reticence on all points of intended policy. It is only natural that neither Russia nor Japan should wish to show her hand. But in the question of Corea, Japan is moved as much by sentiment as by motives of interest, and a national sentiment cannot be lightly disregarded. As *The Japan Gazette* wrote recently, "considering that, only six years ago, Japan went to war with China, principally over that Empire's interference in the peninsula, it is not likely that this nation, whose cradle it may almost be said, was Corea, and whose earliest traditions are indissolubly mixed up with that little Kingdom, will allow Russia to continue much longer in the path of establishing what is practically a protectorate over the whole of Corea."

Much depends on the exact facts of the Russian demand whether the *Jimmin's* remarks should be called unduly optimistic. That journal very rightly points out that the interests of the two nations are not necessarily antagonistic to each other; but, on the contrary, Japan and Russia are mutually interested in the development of the Pacific trade, and the opening up of the vast resources of Siberia and other Russian dominions in Eastern Asia will be materially facilitated by the friendly co-operation of Japan. The sole obstacle to this is the Korean problem, and to this the only solution which, in the *Jimmin's* opinion, will satisfy Japan will be the complete withdrawal of Russian political influence from the peninsula, in return for Japan's entire abstinence from interference with Russian activity in Northern China. The Japanese attitude in the matter may be summed up in the following words, which appeared in the *Japan Times*:—"In claiming the Korean peninsula for our sphere of influence and interest, we are only obeying the irresistible impulse of self-preservation as well as following the obvious logic of facts and history. It cannot be insisted on too strongly or too frequently that our aspirations in that quarter are strictly defensive and peaceful; nothing is further from our idea than to employ Corea as a stepping-stone for checking the natural and legitimate growth of Russian influence to the north and west of it."

Until we hear details of Russian communication to Corea in the matter of Masampo, about which we have at present nothing beyond the bare fact announced by Reuter's message, speculation on the course of future events can hardly serve any useful end. The question to which we await the answer is, Has Russia shown her hand?

The Korean Government is said to have requested the Japanese not to increase the number of post-offices in Corea. Probably, says the *Japan Mail*, our readers remember that the post-office service of Corea is under Japanese management. Corea, apparently, does not desire progress under such circumstances.

Col. Walker, C.M.G., the *Perak Pioneer* hears, will act as Resident, Perak, when Mr. Rodger goes on leave and Mr. Treacher becomes Acting Resident-General. Col. Walker has on several occasions acted as Assistant Resident in the old days, as Secretary to Government latterly, and as Acting Resident of Selangor quite recently.

A PUBLIC DANGER.

(Daily Press, 6th April.)

Many of our readers will remember the fatal landslip that occurred in January, 1894, on Caine Road, immediately below the Seymour Road and above the number two tank. That landslip, which, as the Inquiry proved, might have been averted by the exercise of a little foresight, resulted in the deaths of eight workmen. At the same inquiry the executive engineer of the Public Works Department deposed that the fall was partly due to bad weather and to excavation, and that "if there was any danger to the public at large it would be his duty to see to the matter." The verdict of the Jury at that Inquiry was as follows:—"We are of opinion that death was caused by the slipping of the earth; that, in this particular case, no blame attaches to the Public Works Department; and that in future such work as this might be carried on under the supervision of the Public Works Department, if practicable." We recall this tragedy because, unless a benign Providence interferes, and that right speedily, it may be repeated on exactly the same spot, with probably still more disastrous results. The officials of the Public Works Department are a busy body; and it is conceivable that their time may be fully occupied in more responsible and higher technical employment than seeking for tottering walls. After a lapse of years the unprofessional opinion of a coroner's jury may naturally be forgotten in the oblivion of the departmental pigeon-hole. And it may be also argued that if such a wall appears perpendicular in the plans of the Chinese contractor the duty of the Public Works Department is fulfilled if that wall be perpendicular when completed. Such officials cannot be expected to measure roughly the amount of earth the wall has to support, the depth of its foundations (if any), or its erection in the wet season when the cement cannot set. Those trivialities, at an inquest, for instance, might be briefly relegated to the sphere of some one else's responsibility, the contractor's or the earth-coolie's. But the verdict at the last Inquiry—it is perhaps unkind to suggest by this the possibility of another—was inferentially to the effect that the Public Works Department, if not otherwise precluded, might keep an eye on the successor to this disastrous wall, so that no more lives might be lost if it should be pleased to fall.

Recently, in consequence of building operations of some description, two stone walls on the same fatal spot, have been erected to support a very heavy embankment. They are quite new, as the mortar is scarcely set, and the weight of earth and the recent heavy rains have cracked the side of one right across, and caused the other to bulge threateningly over the public roadway. It needs not a professional eye to detect that the two heavy structures occupy a position somewhat analogous to the mythical tomb of MAHOMED suspended in mid-air, and we shall not be surprised if the next shower of rain does not bring them to the ground, it may be on the top of an unfortunate pedestrian. In this case, though built by a Chinese contractor, the walls are "a danger to the public," and we are surprised that they have escaped the keen official eye, which in other matters relating to building construction is remarkably intrusive. True, there is a workshop of the Water Authority immediately below the side of the road opposite to the wall, but as they cannot see through the road their "vision," like SAM WELLER'S, "is limited." There

is a Police-station a few yards off, but the police duty of inspection would only commence at a possible inquest. It is presumably someone's responsibility to see to this, and that immediately. We have pointed out the danger and called attention to the report at inquest of 1894. The Public Works Department will earn the gratitude of the community, if, at the cost of a few hours taken from their many duties, they guard against the possibility of another verdict, which on this occasion might strive to bring home to them the responsibility for lives lost.

HONGKONG LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL.

On the 29th ult. a meeting of the Hongkong Legislative Council was held in the Council Chamber at the Government Offices, there being present:—

HIS EXCELLENCY the GOVERNOR (Sir Henry Blake, G.C.M.G.).
HIS EXCELLENCY Major-General GASCOIGNE C.M.G. (Commanding the Troops).
Hon. F. H. MAY, C.M.G. (Acting Colonial Secretary).
Hon. W. MEIGH GOODMAN (Attorney-General).
Hon. A. M. THOMSON (Colonial Treasurer).
Hon. R. D. ORMSBY (Director of Public Works).
Hon. A. W. BREWIN.
Hon. H. C. NICOLLE.
Hon. C. P. CHATER, C.M.G.
Hon. Dr. HO KAI.
Hon. T. H. WHITEHEAD.
Hon. WEI A YUK.
Mr. R. F. JOHNSTON (Acting Clerk of Councils.)

MINUTES.

The first item for consideration was the minute from the Governor recommending the vote of \$26,189 to defray during the current year the increases in salaries of Government Officials sanctioned in the Secretary of State's Despatch No. 280 of 8th December, 1899.

REPORT OF FINANCE COMMITTEE.

The ACTING COLONIAL SECRETARY—I beg to bring up the report of the Finance Committee No. 4, and to move its adoption.

The COLONIAL TREASURER seconded and it was carried.

FINANCE MINUTE.

The ACTING COLONIAL SECRETARY—I beg to lay on the table Finance Minute No 13 and to move that it be referred to the Finance Committee.

The COLONIAL TREASURER seconded and it was agreed.

DISORDERLY HOUSES.

The Hon. C. P. CHATER—In the absence of the Hon. T. H. Whitehead, I beg to ask the following question:—"Will the Honourable the Registrar-General inform the Council whether it is a fact that the occupants of disorderly houses who had been moved out of houses in the central districts and gone into houses to the west thereof are again being moved, and if so whether the movements have been or are being effected by virtue of orders made by the Magistrate or by the summary actions of the Police?"

The ACTING COLONIAL SECRETARY—In reply I beg to state:—"The houses to the east of Whitty Street are being moved, and the movements are being effected by virtue of orders issued by the Acting Registrar-General."

BILL TO AMEND THE ARMS ORDINANCE.

On the motion of the ATTORNEY-GENERAL the Council went into committee to consider the Bill entitled An Ordinance to Amend and Consolidate the Law relating to the Carriage and Possession of Arms and Ammunition.

The Hon. T. H. WHITEHEAD raised several points in connection with clause 4, concerning the granting of licenses. He thought that in case of his refusing to grant a license the Captain-Superintendent of Police should be obliged to give his reasons for such refusal.

HIS EXCELLENCY the GOVERNOR said he thought it was not desirable that the Captain Superintendent of Police should give his reasons for refusal. The right of appeal from the decision of the Captain Superintendent of

Police to the Governor-in-Council threw the onus upon the Governor as to whether the appeal should be granted or not.

The Hon. T. H. WHITEHEAD asked whether it was not possible to describe the arms or ammunition in the license.

HIS EXCELLENCY the GOVERNOR—I should say so. It is done every day in Ireland.

The ACTING COLONIAL SECRETARY—Has the hon. member considered the definition of the expression "arms." He will see it includes cannon, gun, pistol, revolver, etc. Would he give a Chinaman permission to carry any arms he likes—from a 9.2 gun for instance down to a revolver?

The Hon. T. H. WHITEHEAD—No, certainly not (laughter).

In connection with clause 10, which read:—

"Any person carrying or having in his possession or reasonably suspected of carrying in his possession any arms or ammunition in contravention of this Ordinance may be arrested without a warrant by any Police Officer or Constable, and shall be conveyed as soon as may be before a Magistrate to be dealt with according to law," the Hon. T. H. WHITEHEAD said the Chamber of Commerce suggested that some provision might be made with regard to persons who were searched at the police-station, who, having no arms on them, should forthwith be released.

The ACTING COLONIAL SECRETARY—If the Police arrest a man and find that he has no arms they will not take him before a magistrate because they will have no charge.

The Hon. T. H. WHITEHEAD—A man might be arrested on suspicion without having to be taken before a magistrate, although the section says he shall be taken before a magistrate.

The ATTORNEY-GENERAL quoted the Ordinance of 1895, which read that a man suspected might be arrested on a warrant and taken before a magistrate. There had been no difficulty concerning that clause in the past five years, and he did not suppose there would be in the future.

HIS EXCELLENCY the GOVERNOR—The hon. member is quite right in this matter. There is a difference between the wording of the clauses in the new and the old Ordinances. The old Ordinance says a man *may* be arrested, and this new Ordinance says he *shall* be taken. Under this Ordinance I do not think any policeman would be justified in releasing a man without taking him before a magistrate.

The Hon. T. H. WHITEHEAD—It seems to me the policeman would have no option in the matter.

HIS EXCELLENCY the GOVERNOR—I think you are quite right.

The ATTORNEY-GENERAL—You may alter the word "shall."

HIS EXCELLENCY the GOVERNOR—There is one thing, however, to be considered. Is it advisable to give any police-constable, whether he be European, Sikh, or Chinaman, power to go up to a man, seize him and search him and then let the man go without taking him before a magistrate? Would you not make it incumbent upon the constable that, instead of walking off, he should, after submitting him to the indignity of being searched, take the man before a magistrate. I think it is worth considering. It makes the constable more careful.

The Hon. T. H. WHITEHEAD—They might arrest a man on Saturday and would have no alternative but to keep him in gaol until Monday, before he can see a magistrate, and the man may be perfectly innocent.

HIS EXCELLENCY the GOVERNOR—You may make a proviso giving such power to the Superintendent of Police.

The ACTING COLONIAL SECRETARY—The Police have power in such a case to grant bail. I have never known of any complaint. The words are a formula used in many Ordinances.

HIS EXCELLENCY the GOVERNOR—I do not think the Police ought to have the power of searching a man without taking him before someone. The man should be properly discharged. You may possibly open the door to a great deal of vexation to some people, who may not be in the position to bring forward things. I think the Hon. Mr. Whitehead's point is a very fair one. A man arrested on Sunday may not find a Magistrate, but I think is met by the inserting of a proviso in such a case, if nothing be found on a person, to allow

the sergeant of police to discharge him at the station.

It was decided that the words "before a Magistrate" should be omitted and the words "to a police station" be inserted.

The Hon. Dr. Ho Kai raised the point as to whether the Schedules would be translated into Chinese.

HIS EXCELLENCY THE GOVERNOR—Yes I take it all the Schedules will be translated into Chinese.

The Hon. Dr. Ho Kai—Sir, regarding this Schedule D first, I desire to propose an amendment. I propose that the figures \$1,200 be deleted in the first item and the figures \$250 be inserted in lieu thereof. The old fee is only \$10, and to increase it now by 120 times is to my mind very excessive and unfair. If \$1,200 be the license fee chargeable annually, then the arms importers and dealers would be the heaviest taxed of all persons trading in this Colony, even more heavily taxed than holders of publican's licenses. The reason given for this increase is, I believed, that in a responsible business like importing and dealing in arms a substantial license fee ought to be paid and that a big fee would tend to keep out disreputable characters. But I maintain, Sir, that since power is given in this Bill to the Captain Supt. of Police, subject only to an appeal to the Governor to refuse licences to questionable and undesirable characters, it is quite unnecessary to have recourse to a high and almost prohibitive licence fee. It will be especially hard on those Chinese arms-dealers who are conducting their business in an honest and legitimate manner to have to pay to the Government a monthly fee of \$100 for the privilege of trading in this Colony, and this seems all the harder on them if one takes into account that when the new provisions of this Bill come into operation it will entail upon them much loss of time and a great deal of extra trouble and inconvenience. It is perfectly right and proper that we should regulate most carefully the dealing in fire-arms and ammunitions in Hongkong, but to impose an almost prohibitive licence fee for that purpose is in my opinion unjust and unnecessary.

The Hon. T. H. WHITEHEAD—The fee of \$1,200 is ridiculous, and it is questionable whether the dealers would make that amount of profit. I think the fees mentioned by the hon. member are very reasonable.

The ACTING COLONIAL SECRETARY—I beg to state that the fees the hon. member has proposed would not anything like cover the cost of watching over this trade. The trade is an extremely large one, and if any honest man knows anything about it, he can testify that it is also to a very large extent an illicit trade. This Government has not only to protect its own trade but it has international obligations to carry out. The hon. member will remember that there has been a state of war in a neighbouring colony for a very long time, and we know perfectly well where the arms to carry on that war came from, and he may have known of some of the trouble the officials of this port have been put to. I say, sir, the legitimate trade in arms is so large that it can well afford to pay this fee. If there are dealers who live on illicit trade in arms who cannot pay this fee, then it will be a very good thing for this colony if they cease to exist.

The Hon. Dr. Ho Kai—Do you say that the trade in arms is illicit?

The ACTING COLONIAL SECRETARY—Yes, it is to a very large extent.

The Hon. Dr. Ho Kai—We must not kill legitimate trade by imposing a hardship upon those dealers who are trying to carry on their business in a proper way, and they cannot possibly in a legitimate way make any substantial profit if they have to pay such a heavy licence fee.

The ACTING COLONIAL SECRETARY—I would like to ask the hon. member if he has any idea as to what revenue the Macao Government obtains from those dealing in arms?

The Hon. T. H. WHITEHEAD—The Macao Government farm out this business and collect a revenue in a most objectionable and in a most antiquated manner. The system of farming has been condemned and is not to be tolerated in England. The trade in arms in England is as free as any other trade. I repeat that this Colony should not restrict the freedom of this

trade. Opium should be as free as arms and one as free as the other.

The ACTING COLONIAL SECRETARY—There is nothing in this Ordinance that throws any obstacle in the way of legitimate trade. I have seen several Chinese dealers in arms in the presence of my Hon. friend on the left (Dr. Ho Kai), and have questioned them as to whether they could point out anything in this Ordinance that would stop legitimate trade and they could not do so. They spoke of inconveniences, but, if I may be allowed to point out, these inconveniences (I refer to export and removal permits) have existed and have actually been used and put in force, but the trade goes along just the same. This trade pays the Macao Government no less a sum than \$40,500 annually and the Macao Government considers the trade in arms, gunpowder and saltpetre a fit subject for taxation. The hon. member says that, if we tax the trade here, it will go to Macao. I say it will not, firstly because the tax there is also heavy. Secondly, because it would not pay large dealers for the sake of saving \$100 a month for a license to start a branch at Macao. Thirdly, the Chinese dealers would not go there because they would find the trade is already farmed and find it also blocked by some monopoly. Finally, I would like to ask the hon. member, who knows Macao very well, how far he could go out of Macao without being overhauled by the Chinese Customs Officials, and which does he think the easier place to carry on smuggling from, Macao or Hongkong?

The Hon. T. H. WHITEHEAD—May I ask whether you have any idea of the cost to the Government of regulating and looking after this trade in arms? What fees are required to cover the cost to the Government? Is \$1,200 not a ridiculous fee?

The Hon. C. P. CHATER—Perhaps the Acting Colonial Secretary can tell us how many licenses there are in force to-day?

The ACTING COLONIAL SECRETARY—Forty. **HIS EXCELLENCY THE GOVERNOR** then put the proposal of the hon. member in the form of an amendment,—that \$1,200 per annum payable in advance as a fee payable for a license by an Importer should be altered to \$250. The decision was against the amendment and the Hon. Dr. Ho Kai asked for a division. The Hon. Dr. Ho Kai, T. H. WHITEHEAD and WEI A YUK voted for the amendment and the other members against, the amendment being lost.

The Hon. Dr. Ho Kai, therefore, did not press his second amendment.

The Hon. T. H. WHITEHEAD—I have to express my congratulations to the Hon. the Attorney-General for the amended bill he has now brought before the Council. Unfortunately I arrived too late to present certain amendments to section 3 but I would like, if possible, Your Excellency, to have them considered. I might give them to the Attorney-General for his consideration, but time did not permit of their being prepared as the amended bill had only been in their hands for two days. It was a great improvement on the crude measure which first came before the Council, and which not only interfered with the freedom of the port but interfered with the liberty of the subject.

HIS EXCELLENCY said no one better than himself was able to realise how much the hon. member could do in two days so devoting himself to the Bill (laughter), but he was anxious to push the Ordinance forward without further delay. After further conversation the amendments of the hon. member were dealt with.

The Council then resumed.

A PETITION AGAINST THE RISE OF PRICES IN FOOD STUFFS.

The Hon. T. H. WHITEHEAD—Sir, may I be permitted, though not quite in order at this period of the meeting, to present a petition to the Council. It is signed by 152 ladies of Hongkong, and deals with the rise in the price of food stuffs, and they have my very hearty sympathy with their petition. I also give notice that at the next meeting of the Council give I shall move the following resolution:—

"That a Committee be appointed to enquire into the continuous rise in the market price of life such as meat, fish, and garden produce and to report."

The Petition handed in was as follows:—

THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL OF HONGKONG.

The humble Petition of the Undersigned sheweth:—

1.—That they desire most earnestly to call the attention of your Honourable Council to the continuous rise in the market prices of almost all the necessaries of life, meat, fish, and garden produce. Hardly a month passes without an intimation being received from the Compradores, that from the beginning of the following month some increase in the cost of one article or another is to take effect. Beef is now 15 and 24 cents a lb. as compared with 12 and 18 cents two years ago. Mutton is 24 cents a lb. as compared with 18 cents at the same period. Suet is now 18 cents a lb. against 10 cents. Fish has risen from 16 cents to 18 and 20 cents per lb. in the same time.

2.—That a certain increase in price as compared with prices a few years ago was unavoidable, but the process is a continuous one, and many of the more recent augmentations have been of such a character and made under such circumstances as to induce us to believe that they have been the result of combinations among the Compradores.

3.—That in view of this apparently mischievous and causeless increase in the cost of living in the Colony, we most urgently request that instructions be given to institute a close inquiry into the causes of this rise and to devise means for putting a stop to any illegal combinations between the salesmen. We would also most respectfully suggest an inquiry into the incidence and operation of the licence fees, &c., now imposed upon boats, markets, &c., &c., with a view to their reduction to such figures as will simply cover the necessary cost to Government of supervising the public markets and registering the junks and men.

Your Petitioners therefore humbly pray that your Honourable Council take the necessary steps to meet their prayer, and your Petitioners will as in duty bound ever pray.

(152 Ladies' signatures.)

THE SALARIES OF SUBORDINATE OFFICIALS.

HIS EXCELLENCY THE GOVERNOR—There is a matter that will come before you in the Finance Committee to-day. When the question of increased salaries of certain officials was considered the Unofficial Members requested me to communicate to the Secretary of State, with a view to receive authority to appoint a Committee, to look into the question of the salaries of those not considered before. The Secretary of State, on the assumption that this referred to the salaries only of subordinate officers, has approved of the appointment of such Committee, and I have nominated this Committee to report on the question of salaries of subordinate officers not before considered. You will see the matter has already come before the Committee, and certain heads of departments and certain Chinese have been considered. Messrs. R. M. Gray, D. Gillies and R. Shewan have been nominated as a Committee, and I am sure their appointment will give satisfaction.

The meeting then concluded.

FINANCE COMMITTEE.

A meeting of the Finance Committee was then held, the Hon. F. H. May, C.M.G., presiding.

The first item was Finance Minute No. 9, in which the Governor recommended the Council to vote the sum of \$26,189 to defray during the current year the increase in salaries of Government Officials sanctioned in the Secretary of State's despatch No. 280, of the 8th Dec. 1899.

The Hon. T. H. WHITEHEAD said he would be glad if the Chairman would read the telegram sent to the Secretary of State in connection with this vote.

The CHAIRMAN read it as follows:—"At the request of the Unofficial Members of Council votes of salaries postponed it was unanimously agreed to request a Committee to investigate all other applications for increase and to report thereon for your consideration."

The Hon. T. H. WHITEHEAD—And the Secretary of State's reply?

The CHAIRMAN—I do not think I am at liberty to read the reply from the Secretary of State. The result of the communication to the Secretary of State is that a Committee has

been authorised to be appointed to investigate the salaries of subordinate officials.

The Hon. T. H. WHITEHEAD—May I ask what "subordinate officials" means?

The CHAIRMAN—"Subordinate officials" I take mean in the first place officers who have not been dealt with in the Secretary of State's despatch, No. 280. All those officers are eliminated from the inquiry, their case having been already dealt with.

The Hon. T. H. WHITEHEAD—And some have not. All the officers who have signed the memorial to the Secretary of State recently—are they excluded from having their applications further considered.

The CHAIRMAN—No.

The Hon. T. H. WHITEHEAD—I see there are one or two heads of departments and others among those who have signed the petition, and if the Committee is to be only allowed to consider the applications of the subordinate officers the others will be naturally excluded from the consideration of the Committee. We asked that all applications should be considered by the Committee, and I wish to get at the point. We have asked for a Committee to investigate all other applications for increases in addition to those applications which have been granted. Will the Committee have power to investigate and report upon all applications? Because if not it may cause me to vote otherwise than I should.

The CHAIRMAN—I do not think you appreciate what you have got. You think you have got less than you asked for. You asked for a Committee to enquire into all other applications. If you had got that it would have confined you to a very few cases, because a number of officials made no application. If you had got what you asked it would have confined you to the consideration of about 25 cases.

The Hon. T. H. WHITEHEAD—There are a number of officials who have made applications, heads of departments and others, are they to be refused?

The Hon. C. P. CHATER—I understand "subordinate officials" means other than the heads of department?

The CHAIRMAN—And assistant heads who have been dealt with.

The Hon. T. H. WHITEHEAD—Their cases having been dealt with, they are not to be reopened?

The CHAIRMAN—The scope of the Committee is limited to subordinate officers, and from its purview are excluded those officers whose salaries have been dealt with by the Secretary of State already. That takes in the whole of the Chinese, because I am going to ask you to vote a sum of \$13,000 to-day for the Chinese employees of the Government below a certain salary, and it practically takes away the whole of what you might call the superior officials dealt with in that despatch No. 280. You will find that with the exception of some of the Public Works officers the officials mentioned in the despatch are Heads and assistant Heads of Departments.

The ATTORNEY-GENERAL—Has there been any application on behalf of the judges?

The CHAIRMAN—No.

The ATTORNEY-GENERAL—The increase in the cost of living has affected them quite as much as anyone else.

The CHAIRMAN—I think gentlemen in the position of judges are quite competent to fight their own case and make their own applications.

The Hon. T. H. WHITEHEAD—In this list of applications from the Hongkong Civil Service many of the cases have been decided by the Secretary of State and cannot be re-opened and cannot come before the Committee. If that is so the Secretary of State has not given us what we asked for. Our object in asking for a commission of enquiry was to inquire into all applications other than those which have been granted.

The CHAIRMAN—You can enquire into the cases of those signatories of the Petition whose salaries have not been increased providing they are not superior officers. There are one or two who cannot be called subordinate officers—Dr. Clark for instance. You can hardly call him a subordinate officer. His case is being separately dealt with.

The Hon. T. H. WHITEHEAD—My object into this matter is simply with a view to see that justice is done to the Civil Service through-

out. That is, the heads of departments do not get increases while the subordinates are denied any increase. The reasons that apply to the heads of departments, such as increased rents and increased cost of living apply ten times more in regard to the subordinate officials.

The vote was then passed.

The official minute No. 13, was then considered and passed. The minute was as follows:—"That the Council do vote a sum of thirteen thousand dollars (\$13,000) to cover the cost of increases on salaries for Chinese employees of the Government, sanctioned by the telegram from the Secretary of State of the 24th February, 1901."

This concluded the business.

On the 5th instant a meeting of the Hongkong Legislative Council was held in the Council Chamber at the Government Offices, there being present:—

His EXCELLENCY Major-General GASPOIGNE, C.M.G. (Commanding the Troops).

The Hon. F. H. MAY, C.M.G. (Acting Colonial Secretary).

Hon. W. MEIGH GOODMAN (Attorney-General).

Hon. A. M. THOMSON (Colonial Treasurer).

Hon. R. D. ORMSBY (Director of Public Works).

Hon. A. W. BREWIN.

Hon. H. C. NICOLLE.

Hon. C. P. CHATER, C.M.G.

Hon. Dr. HO KAI.

Hon. T. H. WHITEHEAD.

Hon. E. R. BELLIOS, C.M.G.

Hon. WEI A YUK.

Hon. J. J. KESWICK.

Mr. R. F. JOHNSTON (Acting Clerk of Councils).

THE ACTING GOVERNOR.

H.E. the MAJOR-GENERAL, in taking the chair in the absence of the Governor, said—Gentlemen, before we begin the business, I should just like to say few words. Of course presiding at these meetings is work which is quite new to me. At the same time, as I feel that I am surrounded by really personal friends, I know that any shortcomings of mine will be received with the utmost consideration. I can only say this, that I have but one desire, and that is to act single-mindedly for the benefit of the colony in which I have spent 18 of the happiest months in my life, and in which I have made a great number of dear friends. (Applause.)

THE NEW TERRITORY.

The ACTING COLONIAL SECRETARY laid on the table a report on the New Territory during the first year of British Administration.

FINANCIAL.

The ACTING COLONIAL SECRETARY laid on the table Financial Minute No. 14 and moved its adoption.

The COLONIAL TREASURER seconded and the motion was carried.

The ACTING COLONIAL SECRETARY laid on the table the report of the Finance Committee (No. 5) and moved its adoption.

The COLONIAL TREASURER seconded.

THE WAGES QUESTION.

The Hon. T. H. WHITEHEAD—Sir, before that report is adopted by this Council I should like it to be clearly understood that the unofficial members asked the Government to apply to the Secretary of State for a committee to enquire into "all applications" for increases of salaries. The reply to the telegram limits the enquiry to subordinate officers. I think, sir, that there should be no misunderstanding, and that all applications for increases of salaries should be put before the committee appointed by His Excellency Sir Henry Blake. The increased cost of living affects the junior officers of the civil service. I think, more keenly than perhaps the heads, and I hope all applications will be put before and considered by the committee.

The ACTING COLONIAL SECRETARY—In these matters I think it is very desirable to be strictly accurate. The telegram sent to the Secretary of State at the request of the unofficial members of the Council did not ask that all applications for increases of salaries should be referred to the committee. It asked that "all other applications" should be referred to the committee. The Secretary of State having already granted two sets of applications

for increases—one made by what I may call the superior officers of the service and the other by the majority of the Chinese employees of the Government—granted only the appointment of a committee to enquire into what I may call the intermediate section, that is the subordinate officials, and that is all that the committee which has been appointed or which can be appointed (unless the Secretary of State's instructions are varied) can enquire into. To do what the honourable member asks would be, firstly, to do something other than what he asked the Secretary of State to do, and would also be to act contrary to the instructions of the Secretary of State.

His EXCELLENCY asked Mr. Whitehead to repeat his observation, as he did not quite grasp it.

The Hon. T. H. WHITEHEAD—The telegram which the unofficial members asked the Government to send to the Secretary of State, according to my recollection, was that "all applications" for increases of salaries should be referred to the committee. I do not remember that the word "other" was included in the telegram. I suppose we are desirous that justice should be done to all members of the civil service who have applied for increases of salaries, because if the heads are to receive increases and the others left out in the cold I should have voted very differently from what I did in the Finance Committee.

The Hon. Dr. HO KAI—The senior unofficial member has a copy of the telegram.

The Hon. C. P. CHATER—If my memory serves me right, I think the statement made by the Honourable Acting Colonial Secretary is correct, and that it was requested that the words "all other applications" should be inserted in the telegram. An exact copy of the telegram arranged by the unofficial members was handed to the Governor and sent home, and if my memory serves me right it said "all other applications."

The ACTING COLONIAL SECRETARY—I think the discussion would be curtailed if the honourable member would state whether he desires the committee to re-open the question of the salaries which have already been increased by the Secretary of State?

The Hon. T. H. WHITEHEAD—Certainly not.

The ACTING COLONIAL SECRETARY—Then I think he has all he has asked for. The committee cannot enquire into the salary of the Chief Justice or Puisne Judge, simply because these officers are not to be regarded as subordinate officers. I think the committee have got everything they asked for, seeing that they can enquire into every single salary in the service other than those which have been increased by the Secretary of State and other than those which are obviously salaries of superior officers and Chinese.

The Hon. T. H. WHITEHEAD—That being so I am quite satisfied, so long as it is made clear that their applications will be considered.

His Excellency the MAJOR-GENERAL—Yes, it is clear. I could not quite see where the difficulty lay.

The motion was passed.

THE REFORMATORY AT CAUSEWAY BAY.

The Hon. T. H. WHITEHEAD gave notice of the following question:—"Does the Government, in view of the fact that a large area of recently cut soil is exposed all round the building, consider it safe to send boys into the "Bellios" Reformatory" at Causeway Bay at any time within the next two years? Will the Government before sending any boys into the Reformatory obtain a detailed medical report as to the sanitary condition of the surroundings of the Reformatory?"

THE PRICE OF FOOD STUFFS.

The Hon. T. H. WHITEHEAD—Pursuant to notice I rise to move the resolution standing in my name, which reads as follows:—"That a Committee be appointed to enquire into the continuous rise in the market prices of most necessities of life, such as meat, fish, and garden produce, and to report." The facts as stated in the petition presented to the Council at the last meeting speak for themselves. The 152 ladies who signed that petition deserve every credit for their good work. The evil dealt with in the petition undoubtedly exists, and it is a growing one. Every one is practically aware of the fact. All applications for in-

creases of salaries are very largely based on the recent continuous increase in the cost of the necessities of life. It is desirable in the interests of the Government and the community that a thorough enquiry should be made and a remedy found if possible.

The Hon. J. J. KESWICK.—Sir, I have much pleasure in seconding that resolution. It seems to me that if there is any ground for the statement that illegitimate influences are brought to bear to keep up the prices of the commodities referred to in the resolution a commission would be the best means of finding it out, and should it be discovered that any such improper influences did exist then I think they should be put a stop to.

The ACTING COLONIAL SECRETARY.—Sir, I am not quite clear whether the honourable member means a committee of this Council or not.

The Hon. T. H. WHITEHEAD.—No, not a committee of this Council, but of gentlemen outside this Council, and I would suggest the names of Dr. Hartigan, Mr. F. Maitland, Mr. A. M. Marshall, Mr. E. Osborne, and Mr. J. J. Francis, Q.C. All these are men of lengthened experience in the colony and are sound and honourable business men.

On the motion being put to the meeting His EXCELLENCY declared it carried, only the Colonial Treasurer and the Hon. H. C. Nicolle voting against.

The ATTORNEY-GENERAL.—This committee will have to be appointed by the Governor. Would it not be advisable to leave out the names?

The Hon. T. H. WHITEHEAD.—I am quite willing to leave the matter in His Excellency's hands.

The ATTORNEY-GENERAL.—Perhaps that would be the wiser course. I suppose you merely suggest the gentlemen you mention as suitable to sit on the commission?

The Hon. T. H. WHITEHEAD.—I merely put them forward as a suggestion.

His EXCELLENCY.—I may say that I am quite in favour of the resolution, and shall be glad to consider the names submitted by the honourable member.

The ATTORNEY-GENERAL.—I understand the honourable member to move the resolution as it stands here and that the names are merely suggested.

The Hon. T. H. WHITEHEAD.—Yes, I merely suggest them.

THE ARMS BILL.

The ATTORNEY-GENERAL proposed the third reading of the Bill entitled an Ordinance to amend and consolidate the law relating to the carriage and possession of arms.

The ACTING COLONIAL SECRETARY seconded. The Hon. C. P. CHATER.—Your Excellency, may I be permitted to make a remark. I was told that the honourable the Attorney-General was going to have this Bill re-committed to put in another exemption—that is to say, the members of the Rifle Association. I understood that the Chief Justice had spoken to the Attorney-General, and that it was arranged that this exemption should be put into the Bill before it passed the third reading.

The ATTORNEY-GENERAL.—The honourable member is correct in part of what he states. I have had a communication from the Chief Justice on the subject, but I explained to him that the Government were not in a position to accede to the request. I pointed out at the same time that the members of the Rifle Association who were either special jurors, justices, Volunteers, or naval or military men, or any other class which came within the exempted persons, would be exempt from requiring licenses. The only hardship entailed upon any gentleman will be that any gentleman who is not a Volunteer or who is not exempted in any other way will have to write a letter, which will only take a minute or two, to the Captain Superintendent of Police, stating that he is a member of the Association, giving his name, and asking that a license shall be granted to him, and I am quite sure the Captain Superintendent will grant a license to any suitable person. At the same time I may point out that at the present moment in England—you will find it in this year's edition of "Whitaker"—either you or I, or any other member of this Council if in England, would have to take out a license and pay 10/- for it if he wished to carry a revolver or gun; so that really a man is better off here than in England. Here all a

man has to do is to apply for a license, and if he is a suitable person he will be granted one and will have no fee at all to pay.

The Hon. T. H. WHITEHEAD.—I beg to move that the Bill be re-committed for the purpose of adding a clause postponing for six months from this date its coming into operation. The European importers have a considerable number of contracts still outstanding. These were entered into months ago, and many of them will not be completed for six or eight, or ten or twelve months. The fee has been increased from \$10 to \$1,200, and if this very large increase in the fee is brought into operation at once many of the Chinese dealers will be unable to pay it. These dealers have entered into contracts with the European importers, and they will very likely be unable to perform their contracts; they may be compelled to repudiate them, and in that case the European importers will be saddled with arms and ammunition on which they might suffer very heavy loss. One importer came into my office this morning and showed me a bundle of contracts entered into within the last three or four months, and these contracts run on for another year. If this large fee is to be levied at once I am sure that the Chinese dealers will be unable to fulfil their contracts. I think it will be unnecessary to bring the Bill into operation until six months hence.

The ATTORNEY-GENERAL.—I would like to point out that sub-section 2 of section 11 says:—"No person, who at the date of the commencement of this Ordinance possesses a valid and unexpired license for importing or dealing in arms, need take out a new license under this Ordinance until the expiration of his current license." Therefore, all these dealers who at the present time have licenses will not have to take out fresh licenses until their present licenses expire. Then this is not a Bill which has been hurried through the Council. This Bill was before the Council three or four months ago. (The Hon. T. H. WHITEHEAD: Five years.) I think that the latter part of last November counsel was heard upon it, and then about the 10th January a memorandum from the Chamber of Commerce was received. The Bill has been before the public a long time, so that though dealers might suppose there would be some amendments in it—as indeed there were—they had no right to assume that the license fee would be altered. It is impossible to pass an Act of this kind without pressing hardly perhaps on a few persons to begin with, but there is no substantial reason I believe why it should be postponed any further. Dealers have the benefit of their current licenses and they have had several months' notice.

The Hon. DR. HO KAI.—I second the motion proposed by my honourable friend the representative of the Chamber of Commerce. The Chinese dealers, although they knew this Bill in one form or another had been hanging about for the last five years, could not tell whether certain sections might not be materially altered; and now it has become law I think a few months grace should be given. As regards the present licenses, I happen to know that several firms let their licenses expire before this Bill was passed and they were granted temporary licenses month to month. The licenses of the majority will terminate in a month or two. I think the request of the honourable member is a reasonable one, and I do hope that the Government will be as lenient as possible with these dealers. They are traders just in the same standing as any others, and there is no reason why any law should press hardly upon them.

His EXCELLENCY.—I am afraid in legislation of this kind somebody must be hard hit. I confess that personally I am against the amendment. I think the measure should be pressed forward in every possible way. It is not as if it had been sprung upon you. It has been to my knowledge a great deal discussed, and though I regret exceedingly if anybody is hard hit by it, yet at the same time personally I cannot agree with the amendment. I think it is very important that the measure should be pressed forward.

On the amendment being put to the vote it was lost, five voting for and seven against. Those who voted for were Messrs. Wei A Yuk, Keswick, Belilios, Whitehead, and Ho Kai.

The Hon. T. H. WHITEHEAD.—I beg to move that the Bill be re-committed for the purpose of having a clause inserted whereby the fee of \$1,200 shall not be payable until the 1st January, 1901. In view of the expressed wish of almost all the unofficial members in regard to the last resolution I implore the Government to deal as leniently as possible with the Chinese dealers in arms and ammunition, and to postpone the levying of this very large fee until the 1st of January, next year, so as to give them the opportunity of honestly carrying out the contracts which they have already entered into. No cause has been shown to this Council for the immediate bringing into force of this new law, and I sincerely hope the Government will see their way to postpone until the first of January next year the levying of this very large if not exorbitant fee of \$1,200.

The Hon. E. R. BELILIOS seconded.

This amendment was also lost, four voting for and eight against. Those who voted for were Messrs. Wei A Yuk, Belilios, Whitehead and Ho Kai.

The Bill was then read a third time and passed, eight voting for the motion and four against (Messrs. Wei A Yuk, Belilios, Whitehead, and Ho Kai).

The Council then adjourned *sine die*.

MEETING OF THE FINANCE COMMITTEE.

A meeting of the Finance Committee was held immediately after the Council meeting, the Acting Colonial Secretary presiding.

The CHAIRMAN said the Governor recommended the Council to vote a sum of \$240, being an allowance granted to Inspector John Lee, of the Registrar General's Department. Lee had a great number of years' service and it was proposed to grant him this allowance partly for his long service and partly for a knowledge of Chinese which enabled him to dispense with an interpreter in the execution of his duties.

The vote was agreed to.
This was all the business.

SUPREME COURT.

April 4th.

IN ORIGINAL JURISDICTION.

BEFORE SIR JOHN CARRINGTON
(CHIEF JUSTICE).

BELILIOS V. THE BANK OF CHINA AND JAPAN, LIMITED.—MOTION FOR JUDGMENT.

In this case Messrs Robinson and Slade (instructed by Messrs Deacon and Hastings) appeared for the plaintiff and Messrs. Francis, Q.C., and Pollock (instructed by Messrs. Johnson, Stokes, and Master) for the defendants.

Mr. Francis said that in this case at the close of the plaintiff's case on the last day of hearing the jury returned a verdict which had been recorded, namely, "We are unanimously of opinion that the plaintiff has failed to prove his case against the defendant Bank, and is not entitled to redeem the 200 Hongkong and Shanghai Bank shares in question." He asked his Lordship, when the verdict was recorded, for judgment for the defendants on this verdict, and at his Lordship's suggestion, his friend wishing to argue the matter in some way, he consented to withdraw the application. He now moved again for his Lordship's judgment for the defendants on that verdict, and he respectfully submitted to his Lordship that the only question now before the court, and the only one his friends were at liberty to argue, was whether on that verdict, standing recorded as it did, the defendants were or were not entitled to a judgment. Whether that verdict was to be set aside and a new trial ordered was a totally different question, which could only be brought before the court under the provisions of the Code by regular motion, a notice of motion stating the grounds for the application. He repeated that the only question they on their side were prepared to argue was whether they were or were not entitled to a judgment on the verdict recorded. He moved his Lordship for judgment for the defendants with costs.

His Lordship—Mr. Pollock do you wish to say anything?

Mr. Pollock—No, my Lord; not at this stage.

Mr. Robinson remarked that the question which his friend had said was quite distinct from that of a motion to set aside a verdict and a motion for a new trial was not quite so distinct as he apparently thought. The section under which the motion was made was section 67 of the Code, section 1. It was a very general provision. "When a cause was tried by the court with a jury, verdict shall be recorded and judgment shall be entered up by the Registrar as the court shall direct." He would ask his Lordship to look at the corresponding clause of the Judicature Act. He submitted that the two were practically the same. The words were:—"The judge shall at or after the trial direct judgment to be entered as he shall think right." Those were the words of the Judicature Act, and he submitted that they were practically the same as the words of the Code.

His Lordship asked what was the old practice?

Mr. Robinson—I have hardly had time to go into it.

His Lordship said that they all knew that under the new rules the judge had refused to accept a verdict.

Mr. Robinson mentioned the case of *Peters v. Perry*.

His Lordship—Does that turn on the construction of the rule?

Mr. Robinson said he submitted confidently that the rule in the Code was framed purposely, and that the power it gave could not be wider. It was framed at the time of the Judicature Act, when the whole matter was under discussion. If the Legislature had desired to give more general power he did not know how they would have found words to do it.

His Lordship—Does it give the court power to go against the verdict of a jury?

Mr. Robinson—I submit it does. What is there in the Code to restrict it? I am not going to ask the court to go against the verdict of the jury, as a matter of fact.

His Lordship—What do you ask the court to do?

Mr. Robinson—I want to show to the court as a preliminary step what I believe and what I submit are the powers of the court, and then I will deal with the question as to what the court should do with those powers.

His Lordship—What do you suggest that the Court should do?

Mr. Robinson replied that he asked the Court to enter judgment empowering the plaintiff to redeem the shares.

His Lordship—You see that would amount to this, that the Court would act directly contrary to the finding of the jury and would shut the mouths of the defendants from giving evidence to support that verdict.

Mr. Robinson said that first of all he deliberately objected to the verdict as given. Secondly, he asked his friend if he was going to give evidence in support of his case.

His Lordship—That was so; I made a note.

Mr. Robinson—And he deliberately refused.

His Lordship—Have you any authority for saying that counsel for the plaintiff is entitled to refuse to accept a verdict given by the jury against him?

Mr. Robinson contended that this was so, and quoted an authority which he said backed him up.

His Lordship—Do you mean that that means that the jury can be forced to go on with a case after they are satisfied that the plaintiff has no case?

Mr. Robinson—It means that the plaintiff has the right to have the case submitted by the judge to the jury with proper directions as to law, etc.

His Lordship—That is the usual course at a trial.

Mr. Robinson—The jury cannot obviate it by saying they have made up their minds.

His Lordship asked if it was not a well-admitted practice that the jury could at the close of the plaintiff's case find that the plaintiff had failed to make out his case and give a verdict for the defendants. Had Mr. Robinson any authority to show that a judge had power to refuse to accept the verdict and to tell the jury they must hear the defendant's case?

Mr. Robinson replied that he said the plaintiff had the right to have the case submitted by the Judge to the jury.

His Lordship said it was a little late to take this point. It should have been taken when the jury returned into Court and gave their verdict.

Mr. Francis—When they asked leave to retire.

Mr. Robinson—We did.

His Lordship—All you did was to ask whether the defendants proposed to call any evidence.

Mr. Robinson—I expressly said I absolutely refused to accept the verdict.

Mr. Francis—After you had heard it.

His Lordship—When the jury were going to retire, Mr. Robinson, I think you must have realised they were probably going to retire by way of finding that your case was not made out, because I was bound to tell them they could not touch the defendants' case.

Mr. Robinson—The jury have the right to retire during the hearing of a case.

His Lordship—But I think you must have recognised they were going to find against you; they could not find against the defendants.

After some further argument His Lordship said Mr. Robinson must satisfy him that he had power to disregard the finding of the jury. He took it that the verdict returned by the jury was a verdict for the defendants.

Mr. Robinson—I will put this question first—What is the verdict of the jury?

His Lordship—I have already told you that I think it a verdict for the defendants.

Mr. Robinson submitted that if a jury went out of its way to give an opinion on a point of law that was not any part of a verdict. The opinion which the jury expressed that the plaintiff had failed to prove his case was not a very satisfactory form of verdict; but when the jury went on to say the plaintiff was not entitled to redeem they went outside their function, and the court would be absolutely wrong in recording that as their verdict.

Mr. Francis submitted that the only proper course for the other side to take was to move to set aside the verdict.

Mr. Slade said he had no authority to lay before his Lordship as to the old practice in England, and he submitted that it was absolutely and utterly immaterial to the present question. His Lordship's powers were clearly and beyond any reasonable doubt defined in the section to which his learned friend had referred. It was clearly stated in that section that such judgment should be entered as the court should direct. There was absolutely no limitation as to the power of the court to direct any verdict that it might think fit.

At the conclusion of the argument His Lordship granted Mr. Francis' application, entering judgment for the defendants with costs.

THE GOVERNOR'S TOUR.

His Excellency the Governor (Sir H. Blake G.C.M.G.) left Hongkong by the *Empress of China* on the 4th inst. for his tour up north, accompanied by Lady Blake, Miss Blake, the Earl of Drogheda, and Viscount Suidale. The party left Murray Pier in the launch *Victoria* at about 12 o'clock, their departure being witnessed by a large and representative assembly, including H.E. Major-General Gascoigne, C.M.G., the Hon. Captain Trufus, Colonel Brown, R.E., the Hon. W. Meigh Goodman, F.H. May, C.M.G., T.H. Whitehead, R.D. Ormsby, C.P. Chater, C.G.M., A.W. Brewin, H.C. Nicolle, Dr. Ho Kai, and Wei A Yuk; Lieut. Hobson, Dr. Bateson Wright, the Right Rev. L.M. Piazzoli, Messrs F.J. Badeley, W. Norton Kyshe, J. Dyer Ball, H.H. Gompertz, W. Chapman, R.F. Johnson, A.G. Romano (Portuguese Consul-General), Ho Tung, Ho Fook, Fung Wa Chuen, and others. Owing to the weather many chose rather to say good-bye to His Excellency on board *The Empress of China*. Among these were the Admiral, the United States Consul-General, Mr. Rounseville Wild-man, and Signor Volpicelli, the Italian consul.

A Company of the Royal Welsh Fusiliers, with the Band and regimental colours and goat, awaited His Excellency's arrival, and on his appearance received him with a royal salute. His Excellency and party shook hands with many of those awaiting them, and on their leaving the pier a salute was fired from the naval yard.

ANOTHER ATTACK BY PIRATES ON THE WEST RIVER.

ONE MAN KILLED AND TWO WOUNDED.

When the steam launch the *Changsha* arrived in the harbour on the 2nd instant towing a lighter the master reported to the police that as the result of an attack by pirates at Shek I, in the Huenshang district, on the West River, the previous evening, one of his crew had been killed, and three others wounded, but not seriously. The body of the murdered man was conveyed to the Mortuary.

It appears that the pirates were assembled in great force along both banks of the river, and on the launch making her appearance they at once opened fire and then got on board. They remained on board about two hours, finally decamping with money and property to the value of \$1,000. The *Changsha* had come from Wuchow and was on her way to Hongkong.

It is unfortunate that at this moment the *Sandpiper* is rendered useless on account of the accident she has herself met with in the West River. She was towed into the harbour yesterday morning by the torpedo destroyer *Fame*, badly damaged about her bows and her forward compartments full of water. The *Sandpiper* will need considerable repairs before she is fit for service again.

THE BELILIOS REFORMATORY.

FORMAL OPENING BY HIS EXCELLENCY THE GOVERNOR.

The reformatory at Causeway Bay provided for the colony by the munificence of the Hon. E. R. Belilios, C.M.G., was formally opened by His Excellency the Governor (Sir Henry A. Blake, G.C.M.G.), on the 2nd instant in the presence of the Earl Drogheda, Viscount Suidale, the Hon. F. H. May, C.M.G., the Hon. R. D. Ormsby, Mr. H. P. Tooker, and others. The foundation stone was laid on the 29th January, 1898, by the then Governor, Sir William Robinson, G.C.M.G., and bears an inscription to that effect. The premises occupy a commanding site on a spur of Morison Hill. They have a handsome front. The ground floor contains an office, a work-room, a reception-room, a dining-room, and three cells. In the upper storey are three dormitories and the Superintendent's quarters, which comprise five rooms. There is accommodation for about 50 boys. The building is a decided acquisition to the colony, and Mr. Belilios is deserving of the hearty thanks of the community for his generosity.

Mr. Belilios had provided a silver key for presentation to His Excellency, together with a beautifully chased silver plate. On the latter were inscribed the words:—"The Belilios Reformatory. Opened by H. E. Sir Henry A. Blake, G.C.M.G., Governor of Hongkong, 2nd April, 1900." The inscription on the key runs as follows:—"H. E. Sir Henry A. Blake, G.C.M.G., Governor of Hongkong." On each side of the door of the principal entrance to the premises is a plate bearing the inscription—in the one case in English and in the other Chinese—"The Belilios Reformatory. This building was erected by the Hon. E. R. Belilios, C.M.G., the ground having been given by the Government. This reformatory was opened by H.E. Sir Henry A. Blake, G.C.M.G., Governor of Hongkong, on the second of April, 1900, in the sixty-third year of the reign of Her Majesty Victoria, Queen of Great Britain and Ireland and Empress of India."

Mr. BELILIOS said—Your Excellency, it is with sincere pleasure that I hand to you these keys with which I must ask you formally to open this institution. I regard it as a good omen for its success that two Governors of this colony have, so to speak, set their stamp upon this reformatory. On the 29th January, 1898, in the seventh year of his administration, Sir William Robinson laid the foundation-stone of the building—his last public function—and now your Excellency, his successor, will perform the ceremony of opening it. The stone recording the fact that Sir William Robinson laid it is before us, and the plates commemorating this function performed by your Excellency will be fixed in the walls. I trust that many youthful wanderers from the paths of virtue will in this institution learn to recognise that honesty is the

best policy, and that the food won by honest toil is sweeter than stolen luxuries. Of course it will not do to expect too much at first as the fruits of reformatory discipline, but we may reasonably hope that when even Chinese boys are taken out of a crime-laden atmosphere, such as that prevailing in a gaol for adults, they will at least be more amenable to good influences and will at any rate escape contact with hardened criminals who delight in corrupting the minds of those whom misfortune or a sudden step may have cast in their way. I refuse to believe that Chinese boys are wholly callous and dead to appeals to their better nature. There must be a percentage who will strive to reform their ways when the opportunity is given to them, and to such I hope this institution will offer that chance. It was in that belief that I engaged to erect this building, and because it seemed to me so inexpressibly sad that boys of tender years should be cast into Victoria Gaol in association with depraved characters. This will be my last appearance for some time at a ceremony of this description, for I am about to leave the colony for a holiday which will extend over three years. But I trust that others will take up the good work. I have been able to do a little for the benefit of education, but there is a much more to be done in this and other directions by those who have the means; for the colony is developing rapidly, the population is increasing, and the residents of British and foreign origin are now settling down and bringing up families in the shadow of these grand old hills. If the Almighty is pleased with the means, I shall on my return, if these wants are not then provided for, do my utmost to supply them. Meantime I hope, as I said, to see others step into the breach and do what is possible to advance education, decrease crime and increase the knowledge and happiness of the community. I will now ask your Excellency to declare this building open. (Applause.)

HIS EXCELLENCY said—Mr. Belilios, I accept this building from you with great pleasure. I have been reading lately the account of the laying of the foundation stone of this reformatory by my predecessor, Sir William Robinson, in which he said that when money was required it was forthcoming. This question of a reformatory has been a burning question for 20 years in this colony. Twenty years ago it was brought to the notice of the Government by the then Acting Police Magistrate. From time to time it was looked into, and in consequence of representations made, I think, by General Gordon the Ordinance of 1885 was passed, an amending Ordinance being passed in 1889. I find that in 1893 there was a despatch from the Secretary of State in which the latter deprecated the apathy of the Government in this matter of a reformatory, for it was found that those youths who were incarcerated in the common prison in Hongkong left the Gaol worse characters than they were when they entered the Gaol—in fact became hardened criminals. As Sir William Robinson stated when laying the foundation stone, you, Mr. Belilios, came forward and said you would give \$12,000. Plans were prepared in accordance with your desire, but I may tell you, ladies and gentlemen, that \$12,000 was found to be insufficient, and that a short time afterwards Mr. Belilios came forward and said he was prepared to give what was necessary to complete the plans which were being prepared. This was \$18,000, which Mr. Belilios then gave and for which this building has been erected. I think the thanks of the community are due to Mr. Belilios for his munificence in this matter. A reformatory to be effective should be disciplinary and educational rather than punitive. I do not believe myself in a reformatory conducted on prison principles. The theory of reformatories is that they recognise the irresponsibility of childhood and early youth and the necessity of following out the injunction of Solomon, "Train up a child in the way he should go, and when he is old he will not depart from it." If you bring up children in a reformatory on the same principles as those adopted towards prisoners you are making them prisoners for life. I remember visiting a prison in Jamaica when the Superintendent mentioned that some of the prisoners were most excellent characters whilst others had very bad characters. I asked, "How do you account for that?" "Well," he replied, "those who bear good characters were all

brought up in reformatories." The fact was that they had been so trained that they had been turned into prisoners and were unhappy under any other system than the coercion system of prison life. Therefore, I say that the reformatory system should be an educational system, so that children would be equipped for the business of life when they left the reformatory. The thanks of the community, I say, are due to Mr. Belilios for his munificence in this matter. In the future many a poor Chinese lad will have to thank this reformatory for his being rescued from possible crime and for a mental and physical equipment which will enable him to lead a respectable life. On behalf of the community, Mr. Belilios, I thank you for this reformatory which I shall now open with the greatest pleasure. (Applause.)

His Excellency then unlocked the door and accompanied by his party made a tour of the premises, with which he expressed himself as being well pleased.

BELILIOS TRUST PRIZE DISTRIBUTION.

ADDRESS BY H. E. MAJOR-GENERAL GASCOIGNE, C.M.G.

H. E. Major-General Gascoigne, C.M.G., attended at the City Hall on the 31st ult. for the purpose of distributing the prizes provided by, and lately awarded under, the Belilios Trust for general progress and proficiency in education during 1899. His Excellency was accompanied by Mrs. Gascoigne and the Misses Gascoigne, and the Hon. Captain Trefusis, A.D.C. The Rev. R. F. Cobbold presided, and he was supported by Mr. Bateson Wright and Mr. G. Piercy, jun.

The Rev. R. F. COBBOLD, in opening the proceedings, said that in the absence of his fellow trustees, one of whom was engaged at the Supreme Court and the other leaving for home, it devolved upon him to introduce to them Major-General Gascoigne, though he thought he needed no introduction. They might congratulate themselves on being so honoured as to have his presence there that day. In a few moments he would ask him to distribute the prizes provided by the Belilios Trust and afterwards to address the prize-winners and their friends. The prizes were not of a very formidable nature, but they trusted they would be useful. He would read out the names of the prize-winners, together with the recommendations.

QUEEN'S COLLEGE—Ho Shai Wing, Chan Pak King Elias, equal, specially good characters by class masters as being conspicuous for progress in general subjects (English and Mathematics).

DIOCESAN SCHOOL—Choi Po Sin, 1st; Cheung U Kwong, 2nd; Henry Ahee, 3rd well-behaved boys, who have made remarkable progress in their studies during 1899.

ST. JOSEPH'S COLLEGE—Andrew Hahn, 1st; good conduct; close application; progress in English, elementary mathematics, and arithmetic. Vasco Carvalho, 2nd; good conduct, steady application, progress in grammar, composition, and history. J. Botelho, 3rd; good conduct, progress in class subjects generally.

ST. PAUL'S COLLEGE—Nip Po Nang, 1st; Li Ho Ching, 2nd, Li Ying Yan 3rd; very diligent in their studies; ever ready to carry out our command; great progress in general subjects, during the year.

BELILIOS PUBLIC SCHOOL—Ethel Long, 1st; marked progress, especially in English and arithmetic. Lily Song, 2nd; extremely diligent; ahead of English girls in her class. Wong Wai Chun, 3rd; persevering and painstaking; translates English home lessons into Chinese so as to better understand them.

BAXTER MISSION SCHOOL—Eliza More, 1st; diligence, helpfulness, and good conduct. Laura Lam, 2nd; diligence in English; good conduct. Alice Smith, 3rd; diligence and good conduct.

ITALIAN CONVENT.—Mally Ho pun, 1st, application to her studies; example to boarders and day-scholars; obedient to teachers and obliging to companions. Emilia da Roza, 2nd; much model progress in composition; surmounted difficulties to be present at school early owing to distance of home from school. May Burrows, 3rd; a model in her class; obedi-

ent to teachers; kind to her companions; willing to teach them what she knows.

SUBSEQUENT PRIZES.

A competitive examination will be held about the close of this year. Particulars of this will be advertised during the forthcoming month. Five or six prizes and two or three medals will be awarded.

H. E. the MAJOR-GENERAL, after distributing the prizes, said he could assure them that it was with feelings of very great pleasure indeed that he found himself asked there to present the prizes. Mr. Cobbold had been kind enough to send him a full account of the Trust. He hardly thought the Trust was sufficiently known in Hongkong; because, certainly until he received the flattering request to present the prizes, he was unaware of the existence of the Trust. However, he had studied the account sent to him by Mr. Cobbold, and it seemed to him that the Trust was a most admirable one as instituted by Mr. Belilios in 1888. His only regret was that Mr. Belilios was not able to be present to hear his remarks. It was unfortunate that apparently not only Mr. Belilios but Mr. Francis and Mr. Ford, who he thought were also trustees, were unable to be present, so that they only had the advantage of Mr. Cobbold's presence. As far as he gathered, this Trust was instituted for the purpose of granting rewards for two purposes. The first was for saving life in the colony and the next was for the encouragement of education. From what he understood from Mr. Cobbold, there had been no application for any prize or reward for saving life, possibly because the Trust was not sufficiently known. The other purpose, the encouragement of education, certainly commended itself most heartily to him and he should think to everyone there. There was one thing he was very much pleased to notice, and that was the reasons given why the various recipients had got prizes. The prizes were awarded not only for diligence, but also for good conduct and attention. It must be very satisfactory to the recipients of the prizes and their friends to hear the very flattering remarks made by the various school-teachers with regard to the prize-winners. It appeared that seven out of eight schools had come forward. He could only say that he trusted the publicity given to the trust by this year's meeting would have the effect of bringing out a greater number of applicants, and also of making those who applied for the prizes work heartily to gain them in a way which would afford them a real feeling that they deserved them. It had been a very great pleasure to him to present the prizes. He could only say that he most heartily congratulated all those to whom he had the honour and pleasure of presenting prizes, knowing that they had thoroughly deserved and won them. (Applause.)

Dr. BATESON WRIGHT, in proposing a vote of thanks to His Excellency, referred to the Garrison School, and that no doubt His Excellency would let the school know of the existence of the Trust, and he trusted that another year those who attended that school would have a chance to participate in the Trust. (Hear, hear.)

The MAJOR-GENERAL, in reply, said he should take care that the scholars attending the Military School had a chance of competing and it would be a pleasure to him if next year he saw one of the prizes handed to one of them. (Hear, hear.)

The proceedings then terminated.

The Kobe Waterworks were opened on the 24th ult. in a steady downpour of rain by H.I.H. Prince Fushimi, Commander of the Himeji Division. Very few foreigners were present, the weather keeping most of the invited guests away, including the British Consul, Mr. Hall.

The *Chunwo*, on the authority of a naval officer in charge, contradicts the report that the Japanese Navy has transferred several guns manufactured by Armstrong & Co. to the British Government. The officer admitted, however, that Armstrong might, if necessary, divert delivery of guns made to the order of various customers to suit the convenience of others. But in the case of guns ordered for the Japanese navy this would hardly be possible, because each gun is marked in a special way. The telegrams, however, have been very explicit on the transfer.

A YEAR'S WORK IN THE NEW TERRITORY.

The Report on the New Territory during the First Year of British Administration, which has been forwarded to the Colonial Secretary in London, comprises the actual Report by the Hon. J. H. Stewart Lockhart and twenty-one appendices. We make the following extracts:—

The territory has been divided into 8 districts and 48 sub-districts. The total number of villages on the mainland and in the islands amounts to 597. This number includes even hamlets of two or three houses. Some of these villages are walled, the object being to afford the inhabitants greater security if attacked by robbers. One of these walled villages was once besieged for three months by robbers.

LAND.

In the month of May last, soon after the New Territory had been taken possession of by the Colonial Government, questions arose in respect of the following matters, viz:—

- (1) The registration of Chin-se deed, under our Deeds Registration Ordinance of 1843.
- (2) The grant of Crown Leases by the Government in substitution of the existing Chinese titles, or
- (3) The grant of Certificates of Title, under which the existing titles should be acknowledged by the Government.

Up to the 20th January last Mr. Messer had registered at Tai-po 21,736 claims and Mr. Kemp at Ping-shan 5,613 claims.

When it is remembered that great confusion has existed in the matter of land in the New Territory for years and that disputes and family feuds have been general in consequence, it is not surprising that there should be many cases requiring readjustment by the Government.

The Government has come to the conclusion that such disputes can be most easily and readily dealt with by a Land Court, especially established for the purpose, and it is hoped that such a Court will shortly be created by law, as it cannot fail to be a great boon to the inhabitants of the New Territory.

BOTANICAL DEPARTMENT.

Shortly after the territory came under the control of the Government of this Colony steps were taken for rearing trees for planting in such places as needed them and subsequently an estimate was submitted for the expenditure of \$2,500 during 1900 in forestry works in the territory, current expenses for 1899 being defrayed from other votes of this Department. Commencing in April and continuing throughout the year, I personally made tours over the greater part of the territory in order to gain as much knowledge of it as possible for application afterwards and to arrange for planting operations during 1900. Up to the end of December about 60,000 pits and sites had been prepared at Tai-po, Ping-shan, Au Tau and Fu-ti Au and along the course of the new road. The planting of trees and seed sowing will commence immediately.

His Excellency the Governor suggested that some Chattanooga Sugar Mills should be obtained from America to demonstrate to the sugar growers the advantages of using Western machinery in place of the primitive mills in use. The new mills have arrived and been fixed in the midst of the sugar districts and satisfactory trials of cane-crushing have been made. His Excellency the Governor and the Colonial Secretary were present at two of the trials. The arrangements of setting up these mills and conducting the trials were entrusted to and carried out by myself.

A considerable number of references have been made to this Department in connection with tree conservation and kindred subjects and I submitted a draft proclamation, which was authorized and published cautioning the people against the destruction of trees.

I have introduced from Ceylon a superior variety of Pine-apple plant for distribution amongst the growers of this plant.

PUBLIC WORKS.

The chief work on which the Director of Public Works has been engaged is that of the Main Road from British Kowloon to Tai-po, which was commenced immediately after the territory had been taken over. The only

means of communication hitherto existing between Hongkong and the newly leased area has been by sea, which in bad weather is impracticable, and by a rough footpath over a pass about 1,000 feet high from Kowloon to Shu-tin, situated on an arm of Mirs Bay. There can be little doubt that the construction of this road, which is desirable both for strategical and administrative purposes, will bring the New Territory into closer relations with Hongkong proper, and will lead to an increase in traffic.

Communication between British Kowloon and Kowloon City has been improved by the extension of the Hunghom Road on the East side of the Kowloon peninsula to Kowloon City. This work has been almost completed.

No definite decision has as yet been arrived at regarding the erection of permanent quarters for the executive staff, as it was deemed advisable to gain experience of healthiness of the neighbourhood where the temporary quarters of the executive staff are situated before committing the Colony to any large expenditure on account of permanent buildings. In view, however, of the opinion of the Principal Civil Medical Officer that much of the malaria from which Government officers have suffered so much is due to the temporary nature of buildings occupied by them, it seems desirable the permanent buildings should be erected without unnecessary delay.

EDUCATION.

Many of the inhabitants seem anxious to learn English, and it is hoped that before long arrangements may be made for encouraging the study of English. It might be well to establish a school for the teaching of English at Un Long in the Shap Pat Héung District, which is the most central and populous of all the sub-districts. I am of opinion that the present village schools should be retained, but that steps should be taken by the Government to encourage the teachers.

REVENUE AND EXPENDITURE.

The revenue for this year from all sources has been estimated at \$100,000, including arrears for 1899, while it is roughly calculated that the Expenditure, exclusive of Public Works Extraordinary, will be about \$175,000, \$150,000 of which, in round figures, will be required for the Police Establishment.

The expenditure on account of Public Works will amount to about \$20,000, most of which will be expended on Police Stations, the Tai-po Road and the Survey.

CONCLUSION.

In view of the difficulties that had necessarily to be encountered in taking over the New Territory and of the short period during which it has enjoyed the benefits of British rule, the progress that has already been made may be regarded as satisfactory. An efficient Force has caused a great diminution in crime and has established confidence among the inhabitants. Improved communications have already led to an increase in traffic and steps are being taken to start new industries and to effect improvements in those already established. Progress in the New Territory may be slow but now that confidence prevails among the people, it may be anticipated that capital will soon be attracted to it, which cannot fail to hasten its development.

An interesting article, signed K., appears in *The Shanghai Mercury* about the Jewish Settlement at Kaifengfu, Honan Province, on which a book has just been published by the Roman Catholic Mission at Siccawei. The Synagogue at Kaifengfu, where for upwards of five centuries the Jews of China had their headquarters, has long vanished, but certain inscriptions have been handed down, and the researches of Alexander Wylie, in particular, throw some light on this obscure piece of history. The first Jewish refugees are supposed to have reached China in company with the last Sassanian King of Persia, whose flight before the Caliph Othman is placed by Gibbon in 651 A.D. With regard to the Settlement at Kaifengfu, the writer in the *Mercury* says:—"Their creed faded out, not from any attempt at persecution, but from the indifference of its professors, who, by their superfluous attempts to prove its identity with the universalist creed of the Confucian hierarchy of China, really took away its only reason for separate existence."

MR. MARSH'S CONCERT.

That it is not difficult to attract a large audience in Hongkong to a performance of high-class music has often been contended, and the gathering that listened on the 3rd inst. to the brilliant musical entertainment provided by Mr. Marsh and his supporters was an additional vindication of the classical taste of the community. It is in the experience of many that it is not difficult to secure a large audience to witness a burlesque performance, but it is often a far from easy task to obtain an appreciative assembly of any size, representative of the community, to hearken to a programme of good music. But after the large number of people who attended the last organ recital at the Cathedral, there was little room for misgiving that the able vocalist now in our midst would secure the sympathy and support of the community. It only happens occasionally that a benign providence turns the steps of an artist, vocal or instrumental, who has delighted home audiences, towards Hongkong, and consequently we have seek solace in reading critiques of home triumphs and utilising those talents which we are even fortunate enough to possess. And those talents are by no means mediocre, for when a prophet does arrive there is always an amount of support willingly proffered him. On this occasion the prophet happens to be a vocalist, and as such Mr. Marsh comes with a brilliant record. Having heard him sing it is not necessary to look up his achievements to judge his ability, for many years have elapsed since a singer with a voice of such calibre was heard in the East. But it may be here interesting to note that Mr. Marsh, on the advice of Senor Randegger in 1885, relinquished the legal profession to devote himself to music. He studied at the Royal Academy of Music for two years, and made his first appearance as a public singer at the Norwich Festival in one of the oratorios for which that city has made itself famous. Later Mr. Marsh turned to operatic music, singing with the celebrated Carl Rosa Company as leading baritone, and later, he joined the Royal Italian Opera Company. Mr. Marsh has sung in many places and with great success, and has on three occasions sung before Her Majesty the Queen, receiving flattering souvenirs in consequence. Mrs. Marsh is known to the music-loving public as Miss Alice Esty, and is one of the most successful prima donnas in Great Britain. She hopes to join her husband on a visit to Hongkong next Spring, if her professional engagements permit, when a cordial welcome from the community will await her.

Such is a brief outline of Mr. Marsh's professional career, and one important attribute to his success is forced upon everyone with whom he comes in social contact, namely his personality. To an admirable voice he unites a fine presence, being a starwart specimen of manhood, and it is easy to picture his success in many of his creations.

It was thought that the hall would be far too small for Mr. Marsh's voice; it was, for many would have preferred to have heard him in a larger building, but as an artist he took in his surroundings and adjusted his voice to the narrow acoustic limits. He was first heard in "The Prologue" (*Pagliacci*) by Leoncavallo, and was vociferously applauded. To Mrs. Lawson was accorded the difficult task of next appearing, and she sang Hope Temple's song "Thoughts and Tears." In this she was very successful, possessing as she does an excellent and well trained soprano voice of much strength. She was followed by a very nicely performed selection from Haydn, "Poco adagio and Rondo all'Onegrese," consisting of a trio by Mr. H. Siebs violin, Mr. E. Siebs, 'cello, and Mr. A. G. Ward pianoforte. The trio was admirably arranged, and the effect of the three instruments was very fine. They were deservedly recalled but did not reappear. Mr. Marsh then sang "A Summer Night," by Goring Thomas, this differing entirely in character from his previous effort. As an encore he gave "My love is come," Cowen's "Swallows" was given by Mrs. Badeley, and her rendering was characterised by clear articulation and good singing; she was well applauded, and the first part of the programme terminated with Mozart's beautiful duet "La ci darem" from *Don Giovanni*.

This was one of the best numbers of the programme and was much enjoyed.

After an interval, in which the merits of the various singers were discussed, the second part opened with a tenor solo by Mr. G. P. Lammiert, who sang in his usual careful style, and clear voice "I'll sing thee Songs of Araby." Mrs. Lawson then rendered Tosti's "Goodbye," and in this we have seldom heard her to better advantage. She sang as an encore "Come to me." Mr. Marsh's next solo was "Lorraine, Lorraine, Lorraine" by Capel, and on being recalled gave a most novel and amusing rendering of "Simon the Cellarer." Mr. Marsh, we believe, studied this under the late Mr. Aynesley Cook.

A pleasing instrumental item was next introduced, being a quartette for two violins, cello and pianoforte, the pieces performed being a "Volklied and Marchen" by Komczak, the performers being Messrs. H. and E. Siebs, Möeller and A. G. Ward. These were most creditably rendered, the instruments blending with excellent effect, the performers being recalled. Mrs. Badley sang "Wind in the Trees," receiving much applause, and being compelled to reappear, and the programme was brought to a conclusion by the soloist of the evening singing "The Toreador's Song" from *Car-men*, in a manner never before heard in the colony. He was compelled to yield to the demand of the audience to sing again and gave "Th. Owl," which created considerable amusement.

The concert was an artistic and complete success, and we hope this will prove the first of many to follow. Its success was a great deal due to the able manner in which Mr. A. G. Ward accompanied each vocalist during the evening. The variety of selection was enough to tax even the abilities of an artist like Mr. Ward but he proved equal to the occasion. Last night's performance was given under the patronage of their Excellencies Sir Henry and Lady Blake and Major-General and Mrs. Gascoigne.

PRESENTATION TO MR. LAWRENCE GIBBS.

THE GOVERNMENT AND ITS SERVANTS.

A NOTE OF DISSATISFACTION SOUNDED.

Mr. Lawrence Gibbs, who has been employed in the Public Works Department for the last nine or ten years, has left the Government service and joined Messrs. Denison and Ram, civil engineers, architects, etc. Not wishing to allow him to leave them without demonstrating to him their appreciation of his work and character, his colleagues invited him to meet them in the office of the Director of Public Works (the Hon. R. D. Ormsby) on the 30th ult. for the purpose of receiving from them a handsome presentation in the shape of a blackwood cabinet.

The Hon. R. D. ORMSBY, in making the presentation, said—Mr. Gibbs: I have been asked by our brother officers present to be their spokesman on this occasion, and it gives me pleasure to accede to me request. At the same time I can assure you that we one and all regret that you are severing your connection with the Department, and to us especially the loss of an energetic, most efficient, and reliable assistant is a serious one. (Hear, hear.) I had the pleasure of meeting you nearly three years ago on board the *Bayern*, when we travelled together to England on leave. I then formed a high opinion of your character, which further acquaintance has strengthened. You will not be forgotten in the Public Works Department and your name will always be connected with many important works projected and carried out by you in the colony. We wish you all success in your new career and long life and happiness. (Applause.)

The cabinet contains a plate on which are inscribed the words:—"Presented to Mr. L. Gibbs from the officers of the Public Works Department. Hongkong, 30th March, 1900."

Mr. GIBBS, who was applauded on rising to acknowledge the gift, said—If anything could add to my pleasure on leaving this service, it would be the fact that, though my work has never been appreciated by the Government in a tangible manner, it has, I believe, been appreciated by my fellow-workers—(hear, hear) who, perhaps after all are the best judge of its

value. I take this very handsome present you have given me as a proof of that appreciation. (Hear, hear.) In a Department like this one can scarcely work for ten years without making some mistakes, without treading on someone's toes. I cannot suppose that I have been much better than anyone else, but I can honestly say that I have always endeavoured to help others while working for myself. (Hear, hear.) I have never tried to push myself into a position to which I had no right. (Hear, hear.) I felt it was my duty to do all the work I could, as it was my master's duty to see that I got enough work—I have no complaint to make on the latter score (laughter)—and not too much pay. There again, with regard to the latter, I have no cause to grumble. (Hear, hear.) I can only hope my resignation and those which have followed will be of some service to this Department in inducing the Government to take a proper view of the value of the services rendered by it. (Hear, hear.) It only now remains for me to thank you most heartily for this very handsome present, which both my wife and I will greatly value. (Applause.)

THE OXFORD AND CAMBRIDGE DINNER.

An Oxford and Cambridge Dinner was held on Saturday night, the 31st ult. at the Hongkong Hotel when twenty-four sat down to dine. The Rt. Rev. the Bishop of Victoria was in the Chair, and Sir J. W. Carrington, C.M.G., was Vice-chairman. After the toast of "The Queen" had been drunk, the Bishop, in proposing the toast of "*Amas Matres*," pointed out that of the representatives of the two Universities in this part of the world, some thirty-eight in all, the greatest number was claimed by the legal profession, next coming the Church and the Government Service, followed by the Army, Commerce, etc. Sir J. W. Carrington replied and proposed in his turn the toast of "Oxford and Cambridge Men at the Front," which was drunk with musical honours; Capt. Trevelyan responded. In the course of the evening much amusement was caused by the arrival of alleged telegrams, the first announcing that after Oxford had led all the way Cambridge had won the Boat Race, the second purporting to be a correction and reversing the names. The actual result did not come in time for the dinner. The entertainment, which included some excellent songs, was only terminated by the necessity for those living outside the town of catching tram or boat. This is the first University Dinner held in Hongkong, an attempt in 1894, to bring together such Oxford and Cambridge men as were to be found in the neighbourhood (there were only eleven then) having failed. The great success of the affair should encourage the promoters to make it an annual event. But for the unavoidable absence of Lord Suirdale, who was one of the Committee, there was nothing to regret, and the energy of those who made the arrangements deserved all the gratitude which it won.

A scheme is on foot in Tokyo to construct a Fine Art Museum in commemoration of the wedding of the Crown Prince. The site of the museum has not yet been decided on, but a majority of the members of the Municipal Council is in favour of constructing it in the Hibiya Park, which, it is thought, will one day be the central park of the city.

It is reported, says *The Kobe Chronicle*, that a foreign firm at Yokohama has arranged to open a steamship service between Yokohama and Chili for the purpose of importing saltpetre and manure and exporting Japanese rice. Negotiations are now in progress with a Japanese merchant of Yokohama with reference to the appointment of an agency for the sale of the imported saltpetre and manure.

It is stated that there has been a large falling off in the amount of liquor shipped to the Philippine Islands since the American occupation. During the last year the total was 1,228 gallons of wines, 19,275 gallons of whisky and 65,344 dozen bottles of beer, which is about one-fifth the average amount exported during the last ten years of the Spanish occupation. Therefore, if it is true, that more than 300 liquor firms in the United States have sent drummers to the Philippines, they have scarcely sold enough to pay their steamship fare.

THE GREEN ISLAND CEMENT COMPANY, LIMITED.

The eleventh ordinary general meeting of the shareholders of the Green Island Cement Company, Limited, was held in the offices of Messrs. Shewan, Tomes and Co., the general managers, on the 31st ult. at noon. Mr. R. Shewan presided, and the others present were—Hon. C. P. Chater, Messrs. D. Gillies, J. R. Michael, J. H. Lewis, A. Babington, C. Ewens, G. Murray Bain, J. Orange, C. W. Dickson, Fang Wa Chuen, Yan Leung Hoy, and F. J. Jorge (secretary).

The CHAIRMAN said—Gentlemen, as usual, we will, with your consent, take the report and accounts, copies of which have been in your hands for some days, as read. As you will have learned from the report, we had lower prices of cement to contend against last year, and under these circumstances, I trust you will agree with me that the result is not bad. We would not in any case expect to do much better, as we still had only the product of the Macao factory to handle, and that, as you know, has had its output improved upon until it can go no further, and having disposed of all it produced at good prices, we could do no more. We were told long ago that we were keeping our prices too high, but, as our critics belonged to that class who are just as ready to advise us as they would be to tell our Generals in South Africa how to conduct their operations there, we refused to listen to them, and are still unable to see why we should have been in a hurry to reduce prices when we were selling all we could make. I mention this not because the matter is very important, but merely to express the hope that such critics will give us more credit for thinking of what we are doing and not judge us without full knowledge of the facts. Of course when, as at present, we find it necessary to meet the market and to force things a little in order to make room for our increasing production, we shall not hesitate to do so. The new works at Hok On, since they started in November last, have worked without a hitch, but it will be some time yet before they can be brought up to their full capacity, as it takes a long time to teach men how to burn the kilns properly. We have now four kilns burning over there, and, as quickly as we can drill enough men, we will commence on the fifth and thereafter the sixth. This will complete the present installation of six kilns, which, allowing for stoppages, repairs, &c., should produce about 9,000 barrels per month. It will be however, quite obvious to you that, as we can operate additional kilns at very little extra expense for labour, Europeans' salaries, &c., &c., it will pay us to increase our output and so reduce the average cost per barrel of cement. That is, of course, provided we can readily sell all we make. As to that I am glad to say the prospects seem very good. It is, of course, only quite recently that we have been able to attack distant markets like San Francisco, Portland (Oregon), Vancouver, India, Australia and even Japan, where, as you know, much cheap but very worthless cement is made, but so far the result of shipments to and enquiries in those markets are very promising, and lead us to behave that provided we can depend upon steamship companies being not too greedy and giving us reasonably low rates of freight, we may do a large business with those places. So far as we can learn, we are now making cement as cheaply as if not cheaper than the best made at home; our brand is admitted by all engineers and experts, who have used it, to be equal in quality to the very best anywhere, and seeing that freight to all the nearer ports around us is in our favour, we feel confident that we can find good markets for a large and, as time goes on, still larger production. The more we make the cheaper we shall make it, but of course in the laying down price at more distant places freight comes in as a very serious item bearing most heavily on an article of such low value as cement and out of all proportion to its cost. It may be said that this applies equally to cement from home, but that is not so in the case of cement shipped for instance to San Francisco or Australia, as cement is an old stand-by of charterers at home when hard up for cargo to fill a sailer or steamer, and as there is always a great quantity of rejected stuff of fering at whatever it will fetch in the market, it is a common occurrence for ships to bring

out cement of inferior quality it is true, on consignment to be sold at any price which will leave the charterers a shilling or two over for freight. Unfortunately for us, though not so for the colony in general, steamers, for we have next to no chances by sail, are not in the habit of leaving here in great want of cargo, and we are thus in the matter of freight not quite at as good an advantage as cement makers at home. On the other hand we can give better value, as the colonies seem to be a favourite dumping ground for bad cement which has been rejected by contractors at home as unfit for their works. Besides the outlets I have mentioned, we anticipate a large demand for cement in the colony for the building of the new Naval Dock, &c. Naturally enough the authorities at home were prejudiced in favour of the home article, but we made special efforts to satisfy the Admiralty, both directly and through our agents in London, as to the perfect fitness of our cement for their purposes, and hope we have overcome their doubt in the matter. But it is not with them but with the contractors who have secured the contract for the work, and whose representative is now on his way out here that we have to deal. I may say that as soon as it was known to which firm the contract was given we communicated with them by wire, and have the reply from our London agents that the contractors, Messrs. Punchard, McTeargart, Lowther & Co. were favourably disposed, but that we must await the arrival of the engineer in charge of the work. If, as we trust, we may succeed in obtaining the contract for this cement, or at least a portion of what will be required for the new dock, it will give us a good start, as it is estimated the works will take about 400,000 barrels in all during the next four years, that is to say about the whole of the present output at Hok Un. That is all, gentlemen, I think as to the future. The prospect seems to me a very good one indeed, but it is never safe to prophecy unless you know, so I will say no more on that subject. Now as to accounts. You will see that on 31st December we owed our bankers some \$200,000, which will be raised on payment of the dividend of \$50,000 to over \$250,000. We therefore require at least \$50,000 at once to pay off our indebtedness as well as further funds to build more kilns in case of our having to supply the cement for the new dock, we could not do with our present installation without neglecting our regular customers and spoiling our business. We estimate that to build four more kilns and lay down the necessary extra grinding machinery will require some \$300,000 more, so that we can easily do with double our present capital. Not only this, we have a valuable asset in our land, especially in the strip bordering on the road between the Docks and Kowloon City, and we could utilize some of it and make a profitable investment by building Chinese houses and renting them on that road. You see we have ample use for more than another \$500,000, and we therefore propose to raise this amount by the issue to shareholders at par of 50,000 new shares of \$10 each fully paid up. We could, of course, place these shares at a good premium but the premium would be paid by you with your own money, and would be capital just the same, so there is no reason why you should not receive scrip for it. To effect this increase of capital, the usual extraordinary meeting will be called, of which due notice will be given you. You will notice that, thanks in a great measure to the energy of Mr. Witchell, the brick and pipe works at Deep Water Bay are at last paying their way, and I see no reason why, as our pipes and bricks become better known, this improvement should not continue. At Macao, work has gone on efficiently and constantly throughout the year, with the exception, of course, of the usual interval for cleaning up and repairs. When the fourth new kiln has been erected there, and the last of the old vertical kilns have disappeared, we shall have done about all that is possible to get the works there into line with Hok Un and to make them a very important adjunct to the factory. I am almost ashamed to refer again to the question of quality, but I feel bound to do so as there are still people who cannot get it into their heads that Portland cement is only a name taken from the favourite name for good building stone at home,

that it never was made at Portland and never had anything to do with Portland, and that our cement is quite as much Portland cement as any made on the Thames or the Medway, not to speak of Portland cement made in Germany and Belgium. Our cement, gentlemen, is the best Portland cement, and, in proof of what I say, can only refer you to the printed testimonials in your hands from such experts as our Director of Public Works, Mr. Wm. Danby, the Manager of the Hongkong and Whampoa Dock Co., and Messrs. Leigh and Orange, as well as from many others I might name. It has been used for the largest public works in this colony, as well as in the Straits Settlements, Formosa, Shanghai and the North of China, and everywhere has given complete satisfaction as a true Portland cement, which it is. That is all, gentlemen, that occurs to me to say to you, and, unless you have any questions to ask me, I will proceed to move the adoption of the report and accounts.

Mr. MICHAEL—I see that \$5,187.50 is to be placed to the reserve fund. I ask whether this is going to be mixed up with the other big reserve fund which is the capital fund—money paid by shareholders, or kept to a special reserve fund?

The CHAIRMAN—It has already been mixed up.

Mr. MICHAEL—Why I make this remark is because in case of any falling back of the profits I don't think it is right to fall back on the capital reserve fund.

The CHAIRMAN—You propose to make two reserve funds? No, that would not do.

Mr. MICHAEL, proceeding, said that in regard to the profit and loss account he found they had brought forward a balance from 1898 of \$50,317. There was no dividend last year and the chief plea was that they required the money for the works at Hok Un. The shareholders were dissatisfied. They thought that this was capitalised now. They found that it was brought forward and mixed with 1899, and it had an effect on the value of the stock. His idea was that this was unfair and unjust. He thought some other system should be adopted in future.

The CHAIRMAN said he was very much obliged to Mr. Michael for his remarks but he was beyond the facts. The matter was brought forward at the meeting last year and they could not write it down any other way. The \$50,317 he referred to was accordingly brought forward to this year's profit and loss account. It was beyond his (the Chairman's) power to alter it. He could not undo what the shareholders agreed to last year.

Mr. MURRAY BAIN—Would Mr. Michael give us any instance in which a company does not carry forward its balance of profit and loss to next year's account? I cannot understand anything else being done. He doesn't propose to do anything else, I believe.

Mr. MICHAEL—In this instance not a cent was paid to the shareholders, and instead of paying a dividend it was decided to carry forward a balance which is absorbed in the company's funds.

The CHAIRMAN said Mr. Michael's contention was simply a quibble, and he was wasting the time of the meeting. Mr. Michael saw in last year's account that it was carried forward and he ought to have stated his mind at that time.

Mr. MICHAEL—I don't see it.

The CHAIRMAN—I am much obliged to you for expressing your opinion, but you agreed with the other shareholders last year that that should be done with the money. I cannot alter what was done last year and I am bound to deal with the accounts according to the wishes of the shareholders. (Hear, hear.) The money appears as a balance at credit of profit and loss. I am afraid you don't grasp the difference between the items.

Mr. MICHAEL—I can quite understand this. That money is absorbed and spent.

The CHAIRMAN—I am sorry I can't satisfy you, and as Mr. Gladstone said, I am not responsible for any understanding which God Almighty has placed in another man's head. (Laughter.) I could not capitalize that as you say, nor do anything else than bring it forward to credit of profit and loss account.

Mr. MICHAEL said they left it to the general managers to guide them, but at the same time they had some complaints from certain shareholders for not giving them a dividend.

The CHAIRMAN—But I could only go with the majority.

Mr. G. MURRAY BAIN here asked if the Chairman would propose the adoption of the report and accounts.

There being no further questions the CHAIRMAN proposed that the report and accounts be adopted and passed as presented.

Mr. G. MURRAY BAIN seconded.

Carried unanimously.

Mr. FUNG WA CHUN, seconded by Mr. BABINGTON, moved that Messrs. Ewens, Li Sing, C. P. Chater, C. W. Dickson and D. Gillies be elected Consulting Committee for the year.

Carried.

Mr. G. MURRAY BAIN moved that Messrs. F. Henderson and W. H. Potts be re-elected auditors.

Mr. MICHAEL seconded and the motion was carried.

The CHAIRMAN—That is all the business, gentlemen. Dividend warrants will be issued on Monday. I thank you for your attendance.

LUZON SUGAR REFINING CO. LTD.

The eighteenth annual general meeting of the shareholders in the Luzon Sugar Refining Co., Ltd., was held on on the 31st ult. at the Office of the General Agents (Messrs. Jardine, Matheson and Co.), Hon. J. J. Keswick presiding. The other gentlemen present were:—Messrs. D. Gillies and J. H. Lewis (Consulting Committee), W. A. Cruickshank (Secretary), W. H. Gresson, G. H. Potts, A. Brook-Smith, J. R. Michael, P. A. Barlow, Choa Chee Bee.

The CHAIRMAN said—Gentlemen: I may in the first place express my regret that the report and accounts were only circulated among you on the 29th inst.; this was due to the fact that the accounts from Manila were received on the 27th idem, for reasons which at present are not quite clear to us. You will no doubt consent to take them as read, in the usual manner, and I regret that, owing to the circumstances mentioned in the report, the results are unsatisfactory. When addressing you at the last annual meeting the Chairman mentioned that work was started in January, but that after a month's running it had to be stopped, owing to the scarcity of raw supplies, and I regret to say that for the same reason it proved impracticable to re-open the Refinery again during the entire year. A small stock of refined sugar remained on hand, and this was disposed of during the year at favourable rates, which tended to minimise the inevitable loss. At the last annual meeting you will recollect that the Chairman also mentioned that active hostilities had then recently been going on in the neighbourhood of Malabon, and that there was some anxiety as to the safety of the staff and premises. I am pleased to say that no serious consequences resulted to either, though the position of the staff who elected to stay through the fighting was an extremely unpleasant one for many weeks. Turning from the past year to the present, I am pleased to say that the prospects at the moment are somewhat bright, and that a sufficient supply of raw sugar seems so probable as to warrant us in resuming work, which we hope will commence in the course of a week or two. I regret to say that our manager Mr. Waghorn, who has been in indifferent health for months past, has resigned his post, but we have arranged for a competent substitute to proceed to Malabon, to take up his duties. Although we have arranged to begin work again shortly, I cannot say that the future is at present by any means assured, as until the Philippines have settled down under American occupation, the acquisition of steady supplies of raw sugar will probably be precarious and the outlet for refined sugar uncertain, because we shall be more or less dependent upon local demand. Before proposing the adoption of the report and accounts I shall be glad to answer any questions regarding them.

No questions being asked, the CHAIRMAN proposed that the report and account be adopted.

Mr. LEWIS seconded.

Carried.

On the motion of Mr. MICHAEL, seconded by Mr. Potts, Messrs. Gillies and Lewis were re-elected on the Consulting Committee.

On the motion of Mr. Barlow, seconded by

Mr. Brook-Smith, Mr. Thos. Arnold was re-elected auditor.

The CHAIRMAN—Gentlemen, that concludes the business of the meeting. I am very sorry I have no announcement to make about dividend warrants. I trust we will be more fortunate after the trouble in Manila ceases.

THE HONGKONG ROPE MANUFACTURING COMPANY, LIMITED.

On the 3rd inst. at noon an extraordinary general meeting of the Hongkong Rope Manufacturing Company, Limited, was held at No. 9, Praya Central, for the purpose of submitting for confirmation or otherwise as a special resolution the resolution passed at the extraordinary general meeting held on the 17th March. Mr. R. Shewan occupied the chair, and there were also present: Messrs. David Gillies, A. J. Raymond, J. H. Lewis (consulting committee), A. Babington, and Fung Wa Chuan.

On the motion of the CHAIRMAN, seconded by Mr. GILLIES, the following resolution was passed:—"That the capital of the company be increased from \$250,000 to \$500,000 by the creation of 5,000 new shares of \$50 each, such increase to be made up by the conversion into capital of the sum of \$250,000 out of the reserve fund or the investments representing the same."

Subsequently another extraordinary general meeting was held (1) To consider and if thought fit approve the draft new regulations which will be submitted to the meeting, and in the event of the approval thereof with or without modifications or alterations, (2) To consider and if thought fit to pass a resolution to the effect: "That the new regulations already approved by this meeting and for the purpose of identification subscribed by the chairman thereof be and the same are hereby approved and that such regulations be and the same are hereby adopted as the regulations of the Company to the exclusion of all the existing regulations thereof."

The CHAIRMAN said their old articles were in such a mess that it was decided to take advantage of the previous meeting to bring them up to date. There was no really vital alteration. He thought the only modification he need refer to was the alteration in the remuneration of the consulting committee, and as those present consisted principally of the consulting committee he thought the less he said of it the better. Since the articles had been printed they had decided to leave out the clause which provided that a fee of \$1 should be paid in respect of every new certificate issued, so in proposing the first resolution he proposed that they approved of the draft new regulation submitted to the meeting with the following modification, viz., that clause 65 levying a fee of \$1 in respect of every new certificate issued should be struck out.

Mr. Lewis seconded and the motion was carried.

On the motion of the CHAIRMAN, seconded by Mr. GILLIES, the second resolution was also carried.

This was all the business.

The Manila Times gives the rumour that two Rinderpest Commissions will probably be appointed, one for the Northern and one for the Southern Provinces of the Philippines.

According to Tokyo journals the forthcoming wedding of the Prince Imperial and Princess Kujo Sadako will take place on Wednesday, May 9th. As the Palace destined for the occupation of the Crown Prince is at present in course of construction at Aoyama, the wedding ceremony will begin in the Imperial Palace at noon on the day in question, and there will be a state ball in the evening. Pending the construction of their new Palace the Imperial couple will live at the Akasaka Detached Palace, which was placed at the disposal of the late Empress Dowager during her lifetime. At the wedding the Crown Prince will wear the uniform of a major in the army and Princess Sadako will be in foreign costume. On the day following the marriage the Imperial pair will make a state progress through the principal streets of the city, when there will be a large turn-out of troops, and the occasion will partake of the nature of a military pageant.

THE CHINA MUTUAL STEAM NAVIGATION COMPANY, LIMITED.

The following is the report of the Directors, to be submitted at the annual ordinary general meeting of shareholders, to be held at the offices of the company, No. 3, Billiter Avenue, in the City of London, on Tuesday, the 13th day of March, 1900.

The Directors beg to submit the general balance sheet and profit and loss account for the year ending 31st December, 1899, duly audited.

The met profit, including the balance brought forward from last year, and after providing for the general expenses of the current year, directors' fees, income tax, interest, &c., amounts to £86,010 11 3. An interim dividend of 3 per cent. on the preference shares was paid on 1st October, 1899, amounting to £5,020 16 0.

Leaving a sum of £80,989 15 3 which it is proposed to apply as follows:—
To the credit of "Purchase account of steamers" £35,000 0 0
To the credit of "Reserve and equalisation of dividends account" £25,000 0 0
And they recommend that there should be paid out of the profit a further dividend of 3 per cent. on the preference shares £5,020 16 0
A dividend of 10 per cent. on the ordinary shares (£5 paid) £8,368 0 0
A bonus of 3 per cent. on the ordinary shares £2,510 8 0
Balance to be carried to new account £5,090 11 3

With a continuance of general activity in trade, the company's steamers have been fully and profitably employed during the past year.

After providing for the six per cent. preference share dividends, the directors have pleasure in recommending payment of a dividend of ten per cent. for the year, and, in addition, a bonus of three per cent. on the ordinary shares, having £5 per share called up.

The fleet, as heretofore, has been maintained in thorough efficiency out of current revenue.

At a substantial profit on first cost, the directors were induced to part with the *Hyson*, built in Belfast in 1895; and, following the recognised practice of the company, they have disposed of the *Ningchow*, built in 1883, and the *Oanfa*, built in 1883, which, after years of good service, were no longer equal to the requirements of the trade.

Considerably after stipulated time the three new steamers, contracted for in 1898, were completed and delivered in the months of March, June and November respectively, of last year. The results of the voyages already made have been quite satisfactory, and the ships themselves and their working have come fully up to expectations.

It will be observed that the directors have written off the profits of last year six per cent. on the first cost of the fleet, notwithstanding the great advance in the value of all steamer property.

The following directors, Mr. David Reid and Mr. H. D. Stewart retire by rotation, but, being eligible, offer themselves for re-election.

The auditors, Messrs. John Baker and Sons and Mr. Jamieson Elles, offer themselves for re-appointment.

It is proposed that the dividends shall be paid, both in London and the East, on the 20th March, 1900. The transfer books will be closed from the 5th to 14th March, inclusive.

The Company's fleet now comprises:—

	Captain.	Tons gross register.	Nominal horse power.	Built
Hyson,	J. S. Hogg	6,608	850	N. Y., 1899
Yang-tze,	H. L. Allen	6,457	850	Mar., 1899
Ping Suey,	C. de la Perrelle	6,457	850	June, 1899
Mo-yunc,	R. Conradi	4,646	800	Aug., 1899
Teenkai,	D. Davies	4,642	800	Oct., 1899
Kintuck,	E. Warrall	4,447	850	Oct., 1899
Pak Ling,	H. W. N. Evans	4,447	850	Sept., 1899
Kaisow,	G. A. Rodway	3,921	650	Mar., 1899
Oopack,	J. Barber	3,883	650	Oct., 1899
Ching Wo,	H. C. Harris	3,883	650	Sept., 1899

DAVID REID,
Chairman.

BALANCE SHEET TO 31st DECEMBER, 1899.

Dr.		Cr.	
To authorised Capital—	£ s. d.		
20,000 preference shares of £10 each	200,000 0 0		
20,000 ordinary shares of £10 each	200,000 0 0		
	£400,000 0 0		
Issued—			
16,736 preference shares fully paid up	167,360 0 0		
16,736 ordinary shares, on which £5 per share have been paid; upon 1,231 of those £5 per share have been in anticipation of calls	89,835 0 0		
	257,195 0 0		
To bills payable	105,107 4 0		
To insurance fund	22,952 16 0		
To net receipts on account of uncompleted voyages	16,719 5 6		
To sundry creditors	23,573 10 4		
To balance of profit and loss account	86,010 11 3		
Less dividend at 3 per cent. on the preference shares for 6 months, paid 1st October, 1899	5,020 16 0		
	80,989 15 3		
	£596,542 11 1		
		Cr.	£ s. d.
By amount of purchase account of steamers	560,900 12 5		
By bills receivable	4,547 12 5		
By office furniture, and cargo stages, &c.	645 4 10		
By sundry debtors	1,091 6 1		
By cost of stores and coals in the East	7,757 11 1		
By cash on deposit	15,000 0 0		
By cash at bankers and on hand	6,600 4 3		
	21,600 4 3		
	£596,542 11 1		

PROFIT AND LOSS ACCOUNT TO 31st DECEMBER, 1899.

Dr.		Cr.	
To general expenses, including remuneration to directors, rent, salaries, income tax, stationery, &c.	6,461 6 1		
To interest	7,177 1 2		
	£13,638 7 3		
To balance	86,010 11 3		
	£99,648 18 6		
		Cr.	£ s. d.
By balance from last account	80,438 0 4		
Less—			
Dividend paid March, 1899	13,388 16 0		
Amount placed to credit of purchase account of steamers	65,000 00 0		
	78,388 16 0		
	2,049 4 4		
By profit realized	97,599 14 2		
	£99,648 18 6		

The Straits Times, commenting on the case of a European lady who is said to have contracted small-pox through riding in a riksha, complains of the indiscriminate use of the same riksha by Europeans and coolies, but is unable to suggest a means of obviating the danger of infection from a diseased person riding in one of the public vehicles. The problem is a difficult one for Jinricksha Department.

The Allahabad Pioneer says that after the murder of Major Kiddle and Mr. Sutherland by the Was, the Lieutenant-Governor of Burma sent instructions to Mr. Scott of the Boundary Commission to return to British territory. This is in accordance with arrangements made when the Joint Commission assembled, as Mr. Scott's escort cannot be turned into a punitive force. "Mr. Scott, however, having made a strong representation that he could safely proceed with the work of the delimitation of the Burma-Chinese border, the Joint Commissions have since been instructed to continue their march. No attempt will be made to punish the Was, as the Commission will soon pass away from their neighbourhood." The Pioneer adds that no blame whatever is attached to the Chinese soldiers who were with the British officers when the latter were attacked, in fact Mr. Litton's life was saved by a Chinese non-commissioned officer, who behaved with great gallantry.

THE WAR RELIEF FUND.

FINAL STATEMENT.—DISSOLUTION OF LOCAL COMMITTEE.

A meeting of the subscribers to the War Relief Fund having been called for noon on the 31st ult. the following gentleman assembled at the Council Chamber, Government Offices:—H. E. Sir Henry Blake, G.C.M.G. (President), Viscount Suidale, A.D.C., Sir Thomas Jackson, (Hon. Treasurer), Hon. F. H. May, C.M.G., Hon. R. D. Ormsby, Messrs H. Humphreys, H. N. Mody, R. F. Johnston, R. F. Drury, C. H. Gale, D. Wood, J. R. Crook, B. W. Grey, G. J. W. King, W. S. Harrison, &c.

Sir THOMAS JACKSON read the notice calling the meeting.

His EXCELLENCY said—Gentlemen, the time has come now when it behoves us to give an account of the funds that have been collected in Hongkong and transmitted to London. This community has come forward nobly in response to the invitation to subscribe to the fund on behalf of the widows and families of the soldiers and sailors in South Africa. Hongkong has always been generous in her subscriptions, and Hongkong and the Eastern ports have shown that the spirit which animated them in times gone by still exists, and that whenever there is an appeal for an object deserving support the funds will be forthcoming from us. I think the thanks of the community are due to Sir Thomas Jackson, the hon. treasurer. No one knows better than myself the energy and perseverance with which he has devoted himself to the collection of subscriptions, giving much time and attention to this matter. I think the community owes its thanks to him, and on behalf of the community I now offer him our thanks for his action in this matter. (Applause.)

His EXCELLENCY then proceeded to read the detailed account, as given below, referring to the generosity of the Hongkong and Shanghai Bank in allowing the sum of \$389.09 as interest—

INCOME.

Hongkong Government.....	\$ 50,000
* Europeans resident in Colony.....	25,791.42
* Indian do.....	2,990.60
* Chinese do.....	19,610.15
Firms and Companies.....	24,955
Warships in Harbour.....	7,831.90
Merchant ships do.....	2,540.65
West River and Coast Ports, Formosa, Nagasaki, and the Philippines.....	19,446.95
Interest allowed by Bank.....	* 389.09

Total.....\$153,555.76

* Individual subscriptions.

EXPENDITURE.

January 6. Telegraphic remittance to the Lord Mayor of London, c/o Mansion House Transvaal War Fund, for credit of the Sailors and Soldiers Families' Association, £7,500 at 1/11 $\frac{1}{2}$	\$ 77,211.79
February 23. Subscription by the Commander-in-Chief, officers and men, H.M.S. Centurion, forwarded by special request to the Lord Mayor of London for credit of the portion of the Mansion House Fund which provides for the relief of Disabled Sailors and Soldiers, £125 15s. 4d. at 1/11 $\frac{1}{2}$	\$ 1,294.75
March 31. Telegraphic remittance to the Lord Mayor of London, c/o Mansion House Transvaal War Fund to be appropriated at the Lord Mayor's discretion, in terms of the Special Resolution passed on 1st ult., £7,309 9s. 8d. at 1/11 $\frac{1}{2}$	\$ 75,049.22

Total.....\$153,555.76

In conclusion, His EXCELLENCY said it was extremely satisfactory that this substantial subscription should have been raised in this small colony, and again thanked Sir Thomas Jackson for the admirable way in which he had managed the local fund.

The local committee was then formally dissolved, and this concluded the meeting.

INDIAN FAMINE RELIEF FUND.

The Honorary Treasurer (Sir Thomas Jackson) begs to acknowledge with thanks receipt of the following contributions to the above Fund:—

Already Acknowledged.....	\$31,629.92
Lau Wei Chuen.....	200
Stewart Bros.....	150
"No name".....	150
A. H. Rennie.....	100
H. E. Pollock.....	100
Captain & Officers, H.M.S. Victorious	52
Lieut. E.N. £5 at 1-11/16.....	50.93
J. A. Chinoy.....	50
P. F.....	50
C. D. Wilkinson.....	50
J. D. Smart.....	25
J. H. Cox.....	25
J. M. Beck.....	25
C. C. B.....	15
T. Mason.....	15
E. Hamilton Sharp.....	10
M. D. Vania.....	5
H. K. Erani.....	5
Members Club Lusitano:—	
A. G. Romano.....	50
L. C. do Rozario.....	25
J. M. E. Machado.....	25
Augusto J. do Rozario.....	25
J. J. Leiria.....	25
Luiz M. Alvares.....	25
H. J. M. Carvalho.....	25
J. M. S. Alves.....	10
J. M. G.....	10
L. G. d'Almada e Castro.....	10
A. M. L. Soares.....	10
F. X. d'Almada e Castro.....	5
Julio A. Carvalho.....	5
L. E. Ozorio.....	5
P. C. de Souza.....	5
R. R. Roberts.....	5
E. J. de Figueredo.....	5
E. F. X. dos S. Remedios.....	5
J. M. V. R.....	5
J. T. d'Almada e Castro.....	5
C. A. Marques.....	5
A. P. Guterres.....	5
A. M. P. Remedios.....	5
E. A. de Carvalho.....	5
A. J. M. Gomes.....	5
C. F. Carvalho.....	5
A. C. Botelho.....	5
C. Danenberg.....	5
A. A. Gutierrez.....	5
V. F. V. Ribeiro.....	5
F. M. Gutierrez.....	5
L. A. de Graca.....	5
J. Graca.....	5
A. F. Remedios.....	5
P. M. N. da Silva.....	5
J. F. Campos de Roza.....	5
F. M. P. de Graca.....	5
Leo Almada e Castro.....	5
F. M. de Graca.....	5
Luiz d'Araujo Roza.....	5
A. O. Gutierrez.....	5
H. L. Noronha.....	5
L. Noronha.....	5
J. P. Xavier.....	5
V. J. dos Remedios.....	5
J. M. C. Campos.....	5
J. M. A. da Silva.....	5
H. M. Basto.....	5
F. T. Gomes.....	5
Total.....	\$33,137.85

Sir Thomas Jackson having left the colony, His Excellency Sir Henry A. Blake, G.C.M.G., has been pleased to appoint Mr. R.T. Wright, of the Hongkong and Shanghai Bank, Honorary Treasurer of the above Fund. Mr. Wright will be glad to receive subscriptions.

It is stated that the *Undaunted* on reaching Shanghai was to undertake the work of conducting the dredger to Weihaiwei.

The Chinese Eastern Railway Company, says *The Japan Gazette*, appears to have decided to use Japanese coal for the company's steamers running between Port Arthur and Vladivostok. It is stated that the Russian Company has lately concluded an agreement with a Nagasaki Japanese coal merchant for a monthly supply of 2,000 tons of coal for the use of the Company's steamers.

CANTON.

[FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.]

Canton, 31st March.

A native paper, the *Chung Shi-yet Pao*, in its issue of the 30th ult., published an article with reference to the case of Mr. Bomanjee, of Canton, and the West River piracy, of which the following is a translation:—"The thieves and robbers in the upper parts of the West River are very numerous, and the reports of robbery and piracy in this journal are countless. In the case of a British subject being robbed the British Consul wrote to the Viceroy as follows: 'By the petition of the British merchant Bomanjee it appears that on the 18th of the second moon (i.e. 15th ult.) he imported 20 bales of cotton yarn and sent under transit pass by the boat of one Pong Ping Kai to Hoyun, in the Ho district, West River. On the 22nd ult., while the boat was anchoring near a house at How Lik, a number of thieves went on board the guard-boat, armed with revolvers, and having overawed the crew, took her in tow to the entrance of the river at Shiu Hing prefecture. The property stolen was thirteen bales of cotton yarn, and money and clothing of the crew to the amount of about \$80. The robbery was reported to the How Lik guard-house and guard-boat. From enquiry made I find that the West River is still infested with thieves and pirates who run wild and use personal violence to rob the foreign merchants of their cargoes. I therefore request Your Excellency strictly to order the civil and military officers, the gunboats and guard-boats, and give them a limited time within which to arrest the thieves and recover the property lost, &c.' Upon receipt of this His Excellency Li Hung-chang made the following order: 'In view of the numerous piracies prevalent on the West River route the late Viceroy gave strict orders for the suppression, and divided the route into sections. Upon enquiry I find that the thieves and robbers are still active. This is not the way to do business. I have ordered the officials in charge of the Shiu Hing prefecture to give one month's time to the civil and military officers, the gunboats and guard boats, and their soldiers, to make an earnest attempt to pacify the district. From the day of the despatch till now many days have passed and no thieves have been arrested or property recovered. Did the officials in charge issue any heavy reward or employ any detective or encourage any soldiers to make arrests, and bring the culprits to punishment?' Upon the Viceroy threatening to degrade all the Mandarins concerned in this case news came this morning that two pirates have been arrested at Fatshan by the Inspector of Police in charge of the Sai Kwan district, just as they were selling the booty and dividing the proceeds thereof at \$50 each.

Lo Sew Ping and others presented a petition to the Viceroy, asking for permission to reclaim the shore along Wong Shah. The petition was that one half of the reclamation ground be retained by the petitioners as their own property to build houses and godowns on, and that of the other half they may take a perpetual lease from the Government at a rental of 5,000 taels per annum, to be used as public ground. The reclamation ground is to be 500 cheung long and 30 cheung deep. The whole circumference is 300 cheung. The income by way of taxation, &c., will amount to 5 or 600,000 taels per annum. About two years ago a Syndicate from Hongkong applied to the late Viceroy Tan for permission to reclaim the Concession, but did not succeed, because the Viceroy said that the people were opposed to it.

It is reported that a magnificent wooden coffin has arrived from Tientsin for H. H. the Viceroy Li Hung-chang, at Canton, and is now kept in the Hoi-chi (or Dutch folly) fort. This gentleman seems to have a predilection for coffins which has been following him about through the greater part of the world. The Chinese have a saying, "A loyal minister is not afraid of death," so perhaps he is preparing to face it boldly.

The Chinese have various subtle methods of carrying on their smuggling of arms. Revolvers were known to have been concealed at the bottom of birdcages, in melons, or in roast ducks, and swords in the bed-quilts. As an illustration of this the following case may be quoted

There was a boat running from Canton to Chan-chun and back, on board which there were two covered boxes, used to put presents in, and in each of the two boxes were two roast ducks. About noon one day when the Captain was feeling hungry he opened one of the boxes, and on tearing open the stomach of one of the birds found a five chambered revolver snugly stowed in it. He opened the rest and found the same throughout. The same is the case with those who smuggle jewelry and other valuables. A rich merchant took his wife and nine or ten concubines, amahs, and servants on board the steamer for Hongkong, all very finely bedecked from head to foot with gold, pearls, bangles and anklets, amounting in value to several thousands of dollars. When they returned to Canton they were all stripped and ready for another journey of the kind.

Five pirates were taken to the execution ground and beheaded on the 28th inst., two of whom were caught in a house of ill fame in Tongyulan, as I have already reported, while the other three were supposed to be pirates caught by the Customs steam-launch *Esomun*.

It is reported that some sporadic cases of plague have occurred in Fatsan. Beginning with fever the patients generally succumb to the attack in a few hours.

MACAO.

[FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.]

Macao, 30th March.

There is something floating in the air about changes in the Portuguese Governorships in the Far East. Some truth is in the rumours. In the case of Timor it is suggested that the ex-harbour-master Senhor Albano Alves Branco is to succeed Senhor Celestino. For Macao the name of the likely governor is not known. It is hoped that the home Government will appoint a man full of energy and possessed of earnest desire to do all he can for this colony, one who will look after her welfare and her numerous wants which for almost three years have been greatly neglected.

Since my last report about the illicit trade in arms, there have been no more such arrivals in this colony up to the present, though many petitions have been sent into the Government Office urging a request to the Hongkong Government to allow the exportation from that colony to this. It seems that the matter now is taken seriously.

Apart from the fact that yesterday a boy went out near the "Porta do Cerco" to shoot birds, and unluckily shot himself, so that he had to be taken to the hospital, very badly wounded, there has been nothing stirring here at all.

CORRESPONDENCE.

[We do not hold ourselves responsible for the opinions expressed by our correspondents.]

THE NAVY LEAGUE.

13 Victoria Street,
London, S. W.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "WEEKLY PRESS."

Sir,—The Navy League desires to call attention to the fact that in the three years, 1897, 1898 and 1899, the Admiralty has not spent the money voted by Parliament for shipbuilding.

The under expenditure in 1897 was £2,139,000, in 1898 £304,000 and in 1899 £1,400,000—a total of £4,343,000. Thus, no reliance can be placed on the figures contained in the shipbuilding programme.

Further, in spite of the fact that this £1,400,000 was voted but not expended in 1899, the shipbuilding vote for 1900 shows a decrease.

By Mr. Goschen's own statement the original vote for new construction in 1899 was the minimum compatible with safety. As £1,400,000 less than the sum voted was expended, it is clear that our safety is compromised.

Mr. Goschen alleges as the cause of this under-expenditure "Abnormal activity in shipbuilding," "Delays in delivery of materials," "Difficulties in securing adequate numbers of workman," "Labour difficulties," and other circumstances.

Many ships, it is true, are under construction, but the Navy League would point out that this

apparent activity is in part due to the fact that several vessels have been unaccountably delayed. The *Albin*, *Glory*, and *Spartiate* for instance, which should have been delivered in 1899, are still unready for sea.

In conclusion, the Navy League are compelled to state their conviction that on reviewing the whole situation the usual proposals of the Government are inadequate to secure the safety of the Empire.—I am, sir, your obedient servant,

H. SEYMOUR TROWER,
Chairman of the Executive
Committee of the Navy League.

27th February, 1900.

VICTORIA RECREATION CLUB.

SIXTH ATHLETIC MEETING.

The sixth athletic meeting in connection with the Victoria Recreation Club took place on the Hongkong Football Ground, Happy Valley, on the 31st ult. in fine weather, and in the presence of a large number of spectators. Some good sport was witnessed. A. Humphreys (scratch), who won the one mile flat race last year, when he had 100 yards start, again came in first, and also carried off premier honours in the 440 yards flat race, F. H. Kew, who was first the four previous years, being second. The three miles bicycle race was a most interesting event. A. McKirdy looked like winning until near the end, but had to give way to A. E. Alves. The time was 11'12½ against 8'52½ last year. In the tug-of-war the Royal Artillery beat the Royal Welch Fusiliers, and in their turn, after a tough struggle, succumbed to the Asiatic Artillery. J. R. M. Hance was the only competitor who surmounted all the obstacles in the obstacle race. The Clown's Race was won by J. T. Cotton, and the Band Race by the kettle-drummer of the band of H.M.S. *Centurion*, which played selections of music during the afternoon. At the conclusion of the sports Lady Blake presented the prizes. The following were the officials:—

JUDGES—Messrs. W. Armstrong, F. Lamert and T. Meek.

HANDICAPPERS—Messrs. T. Grimshaw, T. Meek, G. Holden, R.N., and (Capt.) E. G. Waymouth, R.A.

CLERKS OF THE COURSE.—Dr. J. A. Lowson, Messrs. M. A. A. Souza and E. W. Mitchell.

STARTERS—Messrs. G. A. Caldwell and E. M. Hazeland.

TIME KEEPER—Mr. Hart Buck.

LONG JUMP (Three Tries)—Prize presented by Messrs. David Sassoon and Co. F. H. Kew, 18 ft., 1 in.; H. T. George, 17 ft., 2 in.

THROWING THE CRICKET BALL (Three Tries)—Prize presented by the Hongkong Cricket Club. H. T. George, 18 feet 2 inches, 1; F. H. Kew, 2.

HIGH JUMP (Three Tries)—Prize presented by the V.R.C. J. H. Logan, 4 ft. 10 in., 1.

120 YARDS FLAT RACE (HANDICAP).—First prize presented by Sir Thos. Jackson; second presented; first in each heat to run in final. First heat, J. H. R. Hance, six yards start, 1; H. T. George, eight yards start, 2. Time 12½ sec.

Second heat, F. H. Kew, scratch, 1; R. Lapsley, six yards start, 2. Time 13½ sec.

Final heat, Lapsley, 1; Hance, 2. Time 12½ sec. Won easily.

ONE-MILE BICYCLE RACE.—First prize, presented by Mr. Ho Tung; second prize presented.

100 YARDS FLAT RACE (CHALLENGE CUP).—Presented by the Victoria Recreation Club; to be won three times; first prize, presented by Mr. R. Shewan; second prize presented. F. H. Kew, 1; J. H. R. Hance, 2. Time, 11½ sec.

TWO MILES BICYCLE RACE.—First prize presented by the Hon. J. J. Keswick, second prize presented. A. McKirdy, scratch, 1; A. A. Alves, 90 yds. start, 2; T. Shand, 100 yds. start, 3. Time, 6 min. 58 sec.

HALF-MILE FLAT RACE.—First and second prize presented by Taikoo. A. Humphreys, 1; J. H. Logan, 2. Time, 2 min. 22½ sec.

SACK RACE (50 YARDS).—Prize presented. F. W. White, 1; J. H. Gubbins, 2.

120 YARDS HURDLE RACE.—First and second prizes presented. F. H. Kew, 1; H. T. George, 2.

220 YARDS FLAT RACE.—First prize presented by Commodore F. Powell, C.B.; second prize presented. F. F. Kew, scratch, 1; H. T. George, 15 yards start, 2. Time, 24½ sec.

THREE-LEGGED RACE (100 yards).—Prize presented. A. Humphreys and J. H. R. Hance, 1.

ONE MILE FLAT RACE.—First Prize, presented by H. E. Major-General W. J. Gascoigne, C.M.G.; second prize, presented. A. Humphreys, scratch, 1; J. H. Logan, 30 yards start, 2. Time, 5 min. 23½ sec.

BOYS' RACE, 440 yards—Silva, 1; Mocha, 2.

THREE MILES BICYCLE RACE.—First prize presented by the Hon. E. R. Belilios, C.M.G.; second and third prizes presented. A. E. Alves, 180 yds. start, 1; A. A. Alves, 180 yds. start and A. McKirdy scratch (dead heat). Time 11 min. 12½ sec.

HALF-MILE FLAT RACE (open to Soldiers, Sailors, and Police)—Aymbury (R.W.F.), 1; Macka, 2; Scheehan, 3. Times, 2 min. 14½ sec.

440 YARDS FLAT RACE, CHALLENGE CUP.—To be won two years in succession before becoming the property of a competitor. First Prize, presented by Mr. H. N. Mody, Esq.; second prize, presented. A. Humphreys, 1; F. H. Kew, 2. Time, 61½ sec.

OBSTACLE RACE.—Prize presented. J. H. R. Hance, 1.

THE HONGKONG RIFLE ASSOCIATION.

GENERAL MEETING.

A general meeting of the members of the above association was held at the Volunteer Headquarters (by kind permission of Lieut. Col. Sir J. W. Carrington K.T., C.M.G.) on the 3rd inst. for the purpose of passing the accounts and electing a committee and officers for 1900. The notice convening the meeting says:—"The committee desire to thank H.E. Sir Henry Blake, G.C.M.G.; H.E. Major-General Gascoigne, C.M.G.; Vice-Admiral Sir E. H. Seymour, K.C.B.; Hon. C. P. Chater, C.M.G.; E. R. Belilios, C.M.G.; J. J. Bell-Irving, Sir Thomas Jackson, Kt., and others, for their gifts of prizes and donations to the prize funds. Hongkong again won the Interport Match with the record scores of 934 in 1898 and 952 in 1899. The weekly competitions have been very well attended and Cups were won by Lt. W. J. Diggius and Armourer-Sergeant Blair. The Cup presented by Lieut. A. C. H. Pearson, R.N., was eventually won by Company Sergeant Major-Wallace, R.E." The balance-sheet for the years 1898 and 1899 shows cash in bank \$117-52 and cash in hand \$659-62.

Sir John Carrington occupied the chair, and away the other gentlemen present were: Major Chapman, Mr. M. S. Northcote (secretary), Mr. D. J. McKenzie, Mr. H. Hursthouse, Mr. J. McGregor Forbes, Mr. A. Watson, Mr. J. Marshall, Mr. B. W. Grey, Mr. W. Nagel, Sergeant-Major Wallace, Quartermaster-Sergeant West, Armourer-Sergeant Blair, Sergeant Bowery, and Corporal Hill.

The CHAIRMAN made a few opening observations and proposed the adoption of the accounts.

Mr. MCKENZIE seconded, and the motion was carried.

The CHAIRMAN spoke of the advisability of amalgamating the offices of secretary and treasurer, and proposed Mr. Northcote.

This was seconded and carried.

The committee were elected as follows:—Messrs. Skelton, Chapman, Bowery, Watson, McKenzie, Carlyle, and Smythe.

Mr. Hursthouse made a few observations with regard to the new Arms Ordinance, and suggested that an effort should be made to secure for members of the association a similar privilege to that accorded to Volunteers, namely, that they should not be obliged to secure permits.

The CHAIRMAN and others supported this suggestion, and it was understood that the committee would endeavour to secure the privilege mentioned.

Two accidents in the harbour have been reported to the police within the last two days. On Thursday a man fell off a cargo boat and the body has not yet been recovered. In the other case a junk was upset and a man drowned, the rest of those on board being rescued by another junk which happened to be in the vicinity.

HONGKONG VOLUNTEER CORPS.

"A" MACHINE GUN COMPANY.

The tie for the "A" and "B" cups was shot off on Sunday morning under very unfavourable conditions. Bombardier King wins the "A" and Bombardier Plummer the "B" cup.

This closes the series. Shooting for the new Cups will commence on Sunday next.

THE MALARIAL MOSQUITO IN HONGKONG.

The accompanying notes concerning the existence of the Malarial mosquito in Hongkong were read by Mr. C. V. Ladds at a meeting of the South China Branch of the British Medical Association on Monday evening:—

In a Circular Despatch from the Right Honourable the Secretary of State for the Colonies, dated December 6th, 1898, His Excellency the Governor was requested to forward to the Colonial Office a collection of mosquitos from the Colony with a view to investigating the possible connection of Malaria with this genus of insect.

Two collections were forwarded as requested upon August 19th and November 24th respectively, and none of the species *Anopheles* having been included in these collections it was thought at that time that they did not exist in Hongkong. Having always taken a great interest in the Malaria question, and not being satisfied with the result obtained during the above investigation, I determined to take up the subject privately, and commenced work in December, 1899.

After going thoroughly into the matter, and after having cultivated the larvae of many varieties of mosquito, I at length found that the *Anopheles* undoubtedly did exist in the colony and was to be found in most of its known malarial districts. I first discovered them close by a Government Bungalow at Kennedy Town. The different occupants of this house having been subject to repeated attacks of fever ever since its erection in 1895, I determined to make this place my starting point, and after a very careful examination, I found a small pool swarming with *Anopheles* larvae within fifty yards of the building.

Extending my search I found the same species near the Kennedy Town Fever Hospital, at Magazine Gap, at Wong-nei-cheong village, near a house on Bonham Road, at Quarry Bay, close by the Tsikoo Sugar Refinery, all round the Camp of the Welch Fusilier detachment at Kowloon, and in many other places.

This being sufficient evidence of their existence over a considerable area of the colony, and having now no doubt that they were to be found in all the malarial districts, I next proceeded to examine the particular kind of pool which the *Anopheles* appeared to select as most suitable for the propagation of its species.

A small shallow pool containing algae, or green flocculent water-weed, and fungoid growths, abounding in all kinds of aquatic insect life, and which is not quite stagnant (or if stagnant at the time of discovery is not likely long to remain so, but is renewed occasionally by small flushes of rain water), appears to be their favourite habitat.

In nearly every instance I found them only in such pools, which were in most cases fed by minute streams issuing from small springs in the hill side, and these not being of sufficient volume to scour out a channel of their own, just spread themselves over the surrounding lower ground, and so help to form and feed the typical *Anopheles* pool.

They do not seem to inhabit pools which are entirely stagnant (or likely to remain so long) or which contain no water weed; and appear to be particularly careful in their selection, as, although there may be dozens of pools in the locality, only a few of them may contain *Anopheles*.

Having repeatedly found the mosquito hovering round a pool which contained the same species of larvae, it is probable that the adult insect returns to its original home to deposit its eggs, and this theory may, if correct, account in a measure for their not being found scattered indiscriminately about everywhere. After once seeing the particular kind of pool which these mosquitos affect, it is easily recognized but it is not quite so easy to describe it correctly; yet

I trust that I have given a fair general idea of what to look for.

I find by experimenting that the *Anopheles* larvae appear to feed upon the algae or water weed which is found in their particular pools, and also possibly upon some of the animalculae which they contain. This I proved by placing some larvae in clear tap water and others in water taken from an *Anopheles* pool, which contained water weed; those in the former dying quickly, while those in the latter hatched out in due course. I should not say that the larval stage of the insect is a long one, probably about a week to ten days, this depending a good deal upon the nature of the pool; after which time they emerge therefrom as adult mosquitos. The life of the mosquito itself probably extends over a period of several weeks; perhaps longer.

I have so far not succeeded in finding the *Anopheles* larvae in any of the healthy districts of the colony, or far distant from human habitations, nor have I yet found them in rice fields, in large pools of water, in rapidly running streams, in pools with sandy bottoms, in wells, old broken pottery, tubs, pans, etc., as in the case of *Culex*, which may be found in almost anything which contains water.

In contradistinction to the *Anopheles*, water weed does not seem to be necessary to the existence of the *Culex* larvae, they being often found in pools, etc., from which it is entirely absent. A further distinction between the two species being that the former appears to be much more delicate than the latter. It is not necessary here to describe the *Anopheles* larva or mosquito, they being so entirely different from the other species as to be easily recognised after having been once seen. Having satisfied myself as to the existence of the *Anopheles* in the Colony, and having given a brief description of its habitat, etc., I will now pass on to the possibilities of its extirpation from the island. With this object in view, I have been testing the effects of various insecticides. I found that kerosene used as described by the African Commission was very effective in still pools, or in those which were temporarily stagnant; gas tar also proved to be very useful, but in my opinion Jeyes' Fluid is the best of those which I have tried up to the present.

So far as my experiments have gone, I find that one part of Jeyes' Fluid to 10,000, of water kills both *Anopheles* and *Culex* larvae in a few hours, very much weaker solutions destroying them after a longer interval.

Potassium permanganate of potash appears to be of very little use. In a solution of 1 to 1200 of water, equal to one in five of Condy's Fluid, the larvae lived for twenty-four hours, and were as lively as ever at the end of that time, while in a solution of 1 to 500, equal to nearly one in two of Condy's Fluid, they lived for four hours without there being any appreciable effect upon them, and even after twenty four hours more than half of them were alive.

Hence by treating all *Anopheles* resorts frequently with Jeyes' fluid, kerosene, or gas tar, during the whole of the dry season, when such pools are comparatively scarce, and by paying particular attention to surface drainage in malarial districts, much might be done toward effecting their partial, if not total, extermination.

In conclusion, I think I may safely say that by working upon these lines, and given the services of half-a-dozen intelligent coolies, some one to look after them, and the necessary supplies of the above mentioned chemicals, in a very short time it would be possible to cause the *Anopheles* to become so scarce in Hongkong that should they prove to be the only source of infection by malaria, cases of malarial fever would soon be as rare as cholera, and the finding of the *Anopheles* larvae in any part of the island as difficult a matter as looking for the proverbial needle in a truss of hay.

The final competition for the Captain's Cup took place on Sunday at the Golf Links in the Happy Valley, the finalists being Mr. J. McMurtrie and Dr. J. A. Lowson. Mr. McMurtrie won the trophy on the last green by one hole, after leading nearly all the way, and being 2 up and 6 to play. Then the score became all square with one to go, when Mr. McMurtrie won.

HONGKONG.

Dr. J. A. Lowson is appointed Acting Principal Civil Medical Officer, with effect from the 21st instant, during the absence of Dr. J. M. Atkinson.

The accounts of the Football Shield Finals and Final have been audited and the balance of \$163.31 has been handed over by the Hongkong Football Club to the Shield Fund.

Sir Thomas Jackson left by the *Empress of China* on the 4th inst. for England, via Vancouver. As we have already mentioned, he will be present at the Congress of Chambers of Commerce of the Empire.

The total number of cases of Bubonic Plague in the Colony from 1st January to noon of the 31st March is 20, and the deaths during the period are 19. Two of the cases and two of the deaths occurred between noon of the 30th and noon of the 31st ult.

Dr. F. C. Rieloff, the German Consul, left Hongkong on the 6th inst. to take charge of the German Consulate at Manila, during the three months' absence on leave of the Consul there. Dr. Rieloff departed by the *Sunkiang*. During his stay at Manila, Consular business here will be dealt with by the German Consul at Canton, Herr Kallen, who arrived in Canton about a fortnight ago.

An old Hongkong official has passed away in the person of J. J. Clerihew, who died at his residence, West Point, at 4 a.m. on the 3rd inst. Deceased was formerly an inspector in the Sanitary Department and retired on a pension in consequence of ill health last year. He was a member of the United Service Lodge, and was accorded a Masonic funeral on the 4th inst., the cortege passing the monument at 10 a.m.

At the Magistracy on the 31st ult., before Mr. Gompertz, a Russian named Nicolas Nicolos, who is acting as assistant at the shooting gallery on the Praya near Prince's Buildings, was charged with wounding a China boy named Chang Yung by shooting him on the top of the head with an air gun. P. C. Brown said that the previous day the complainant came to him and said he had been shot. He accompanied him to the shooting gallery, and the defendant was pointed out as the man who had fired the shot. Witness took him into custody. The complainant was taken to the hospital and would not be able to leave before Monday. The defendant said that the injury was accidentally done. He did not mean really to do it. The case was adjourned to Monday.

On Wednesday afternoon, the 4th instant, a meeting of Her Majesty's Justices of the Peace was held at the Magistracy for the purpose of considering an application from Joseph H. Donnenberg for the transfer of his publican's license to sell and retail intoxicating liquors on the premises situate at house No 1, Jubilee Street, under the sign of "The Colonial Hotel," to Moritz Papier. Mr. H. H. J. Gompertz presided, and there were also present: Dr. Jordan, Dr. Bell, Messrs. Badeley, A. Shelton Hooper, and W. M. B. Arthur—Mr. Looker, who appeared for the applicant, said that his client had been ten years in the colony and had held an eating-house license. So far as he was aware there was nothing at all against him in any respect. He was a Turk by nationality.—Mr. Badeley said there was no police objection, and he was strongly in favour of the application being granted. The application was granted.

COMMERCIAL.

TEA.

EXPORT OF TEA FROM CHINA TO UNITED KINGDOM AND CONTINENT.

	1899-1900	1898-99
	lbs.	lbs.
Hankow and Shanghai	13,160,074	12,061,298
Amoy	502,317	688,318
Koochow	16,174,605	12,976,578
Canton	6,508,430	4,913,484
	36,345,426	30,659,678

EXPORT OF TEA FROM CHINA TO
UNITED STATES AND CANADA.

	1899-1900	1898-99.
Shanghai.....	20,283,296	15,661,674
Amoy	13,616,678	15,557,986
Foochow	9,629,601	9,168,280
	43,529,575	40,377,740

CAMPBOR.

HONGKONG, 6th April.—The upward tendency continues, the market being good. Quotations for Formosa are: \$95.50 to \$96.00; sales 250 piculs.

SUGAR.

HONGKONG, 6th April.—Prices are further declining, the market being dull. Quotations are:—

Sheklong, No. 1, White...	\$7.80 to \$7.90	cl.
do. " 2, White...	7.15 to 7.20	"
Sheklong, No. 1, Brown...	5.35 to 5.40	"
do. " 2, Brown...	5.25 to 5.25	"
Swatow, No. 1, White...	7.90 to 7.95	"
do. " 1, White...	7.20 to 7.25	"
Swatow, No. 1, Brown...	5.25 to 5.30	"
do. " 2, Brown...	5.10 to 5.15	"
Foochow Sugar Candy...	11.70 to 11.75	"
Sheklong	9.80 to 9.85	"

OPIUM.

HONGKONG, 6th April.—Malwa.—Is dull. Last years' new at \$920, and two years old at \$930.

Bengal.—Market is very dull. Quotations are nominal. Old Patna at \$963, Old Benares at \$960, New Benares at \$910.

Malwa.—Small sales are being made in last years' drug at \$900, and two years old at \$910.

Persian.—Superior quality is in demand at \$885 to \$900.

Patna	380 chests.
Benares	200 "
Malwa	1,150 "
Persian	2,275 "

COURSE OF THE HONGKONG OPIUM MARKET.

DATE.	PATNA.		BENARES.		MALWA.	
	New.	Old.	New.	Old.	New.	Old.
899.	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$
Mar. 31	990	—	990	990	990	940
April 2	990	—	990	990	900	940
April 3	975	—	970	975	890	920
April 4	975	—	920	960	890	920
April 5	975	—	920	960	890	920
April 6	975	—	920	960	890	920

COALS.

HONGKONG, 6th April.—Sales, Cardiff coal ex ship at \$22½ and Godown at \$24. In Japanese small sales at \$7 to \$8. Quotations are:—

Cardiff.....	\$26.50 ex ship, steady
Australian.....	12.25 to 12.50—ex godown, steady
Milki Lump } and Small. }	8.00 to 9.00 nominal
Moji Lump ...	6.50 to 8.50 ex ship, steady
Hongay double screened.....	11.50 to \$12 ex godown
Hongay Lump	8.00 to 8.50 ex ship
Hongay Dust...	5.50 to —
Briquettes	14.60 to — ex godown

RICE

HONGKONG, 6th April.—The position of the market is nearly the same as when last reported. Quotations are:—

Saigon, Ordinary.....	\$2.75 to 2.80
" Round, Good quality	2.95 to 3.00
" Long	3.15 to 3.20
Siam, Field, mill cleaned, No. 2 ..	2.90 to 2.95
" Garden, " No. 1 ..	3.20 to 3.25
" White	3.75 to 3.80
" Fine Cargo.....	4.05 to 4.10

MISCELLANEOUS IMPORTS.

HONGKONG, 6th April.—Among the sales reported during the week are the following:—

YARN AND PIECE GOODS:—Bombay Yarn:—1,600 bales No. 10 at \$92.50 to \$104, 350 bales No. 12 at \$95 to \$98, 250 bales No. 16 at \$101 to \$104, 800 bales No. 20 at \$103 to \$119. Japanese Yarn:—100 bales No. 16 at \$102 to arrive. Grey Shirtings:—750 pieces 10 lbs. Blue Dragon at \$4.30. White Shirtings:—500 pieces X O at \$5.85, 600 pieces X O at \$5.85. T-Clothes:—3,750 Silver Dragon at \$2.63.

COTTON YARN.

Bombay—Nos. 10 to 20s.....	\$ 88.00 to \$111.00
English—Nos. 16 to 24,	114.00 to 120.00
" 22 to 24,	116.00 to 122.00
" 28 to 32,	129.00 to 138.00
" 38 to 42,	147.00 to 154.00

COTTON PIECE GOODS.—

Grey Shirtings—6 lbs.	2.00 to 2.10
7 lbs.	2.20 to 2.25
8.4 lbs.	2.95 to 3.80
9 to 10 lbs.	3.90 to 4.85
White Shirtings—54 to 56 rd.	2.75 to 2.95
58 to 60 "	3.25 to 3.95
64 to 66 "	4.25 to 5.00
Fine	5.20 to 8.00
Book-folds.	4.55 to 6.45
Victoria Lawns—12 yards	0.80 to 1.00
T-Clothes—6lbs. (32 in.), Ord'y.	1.85 to 2.00
7lbs. (32 ")	2.10 to 2.30
6lbs. (32 "), Mexa.	2.00 to 2.20
7lbs. (32 ")	2.55 to 2.90
8 to 8.4 oz. (36 in.)	2.90 to 3.60
Drills, English—40 yds., 14 to 16lbs.	4.30 to 7.20

FANCY COTTONS.—

Turkey Red Shirtings—1½ to 8lbs.	1.75 to 7.20
Brocades—Dyed	4.20 to 5.70
Chintzes—Assorted	0.08½ to 0.17
Velvet—Black, 22 in	0.26 to 0.65
Velveteens—18 in.....	0.23½ to 0.28
Handkerchiefs—Imitation Silk	0.40 to 2.50

WOOLLENS.—

Spanish Stripes—Sundry chops.	1.00 to 1.75
German	— to —
Habit, Med. and Broad Cloths.	1.55 to 1.75
Long Ells—Scarlet	6.80 to 10.40
Assorted	6.90 to 10.50
Camlets—Assorted	13.50 to 33.00
Lastings 30 yds. 3 inches, Assorted)	10.50 to 23.00
Orleans—Plain	8.50 to 10.00
Blankets—8 to 12lbs.	4.20 to 16.00

METALS.—

Iron—Nail Rod	6.40 to —
Square, Flat Round Bar (Eng.)	6.50 to —
Sweish Bar	8.75 to —
Small Round Rod	7.30 to —
Hoop ½ to 1½ in.	8.50 to —
Wire 15/25	10.25 to —
Old Wire Rope.....	3.00 to —
Lead, L. B. & Co and Hole Chop	10.50 to —
Australian	10.40 to —
Yellow M'tal—Muntz. 14/20 oz.	42.50 to —
Vivian's. 14/20 oz.	42.50 to —
Elliot's, 14/20 oz.	42.50 to —
New Chop, 14/20 oz.	42.75 to —
Composition Nails	65.00 to —
Japan Copper, Slabs	40.00 to —
Tin	82.00 to —

Tin-Plates	8.60 to —
Steel ½ to ½	7.30 to —

SUNDRIES.—

Quicksilver	178.00 to —
Window Glass	6.50 to —
Kerosene Oil	2.86 to —

EXPANG.

FRIDAY, 6th April

LONDON.—

Telegraphic Transfer	111½
Bank Bills, on demand	141½
Bank Bills, at 30 days' sight	1/11½
Bank Bills, at 4 months' sight	1/11½
Credits, at 4 months' sight	1/11½
Documentary Bills, 4 months' sight ..	2/0

ON PARIS.—

Bank Bills, on demand.....	2.46
Credits, at 4 months' sight	2.50½

ON GERMANY.—

On demand.....	200½
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ON NEW YORK.—

Bank Bills, on demand	7½
Credits, 60 days' sight	8½

ON BOMBAY.—

Telegraphic Transfer	145½
Bank, on demand	146½

ON CALCUTTA.—

Telegraphic Transfer	145½
Bank, on demand	146½

ON SHANGHAI.—

Bank, at sight	71½
Private, 30 days' sight	72½

ON YOKOHAMA.—

On demand	8½ % pm.
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ON MANILA.—

On demand	2½ % pm.
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ON SINGAPORE.—

On demand	1 % pm.
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ON BATAVIA.—

On demand	117½
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ON HAIPHONG.—

On demand	3 % pm.
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ON SAIGON.—

On demand	2½ % pm.
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ON BANGKOK.—

On demand	61
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SOVEREIGNS, Bank's Buying Rate

GOLD LEAF, 100 fine per taal

BAR SILVER, per oz

JOINT STOCK SHARES.

HONGKONG, 4th Apr.—The market continues dull, with no important business to report whilst rates remain steady with very little fluctuation.

BANKS.—Hongkong and Shanghai have changed hands in small lot at 318 per cent. premium for cash, and Nationals at 27½ and 28.

MARINE INSURANCES.—China Trade's continue steady with small sales at \$54. Cantons have changed hands at \$130 and Unions at \$130. North Chinas are on offer at \$170, without finding buyers. Yangtszes have been placed at quotation. An enquiry for Straits at \$1 has not been met.

FIRE INSURANCES.—Hongkongs have been placed at \$292½ to \$300, closing steady at \$297½. Chinas have changed hands in small lots at quotation.

SHIPPING.—Hongkong, Canton and Macao's I have been negotiated at \$30½ and \$30, closing with buyers at the latter rate. Donglases and Indos have changed hands at \$51 and \$92 respectively. China Mutuals and China Manilas unchanged and without business.

REFINERIES.—China Sugars have changed hands in small lots at \$130. Luzons continue on offer without inducing any business.

MINING.—Punjoms (ordinary) have been placed in small lots at \$7.75 closing with sellers at that rate. Preferences have found buyers at \$1.40 and close steady at that rate. Oliviers and Great Easterns have been negotiated in unimportant lots at quotations. Jelebus at \$13 and \$12.90 and Raubs at \$60.

DOCKS, WHARVES, AND GODOWNS.—Hongkong and Whampoa Docks have again weakened on a renewal of rumours of some opposition. No sales are reported but shares are obtainable at 500 per cent. premium. Kowloon Wharfs have ruled much firmer and after small sales at \$84, \$84½, \$85 and \$86, are wanted at \$86½. Wanchais are still enquired for without bringing any shares on the market.

LANDS, HOTELS, AND BUILDINGS.—Hongkong Lands continue steady with sales and buyers at \$126 and \$127, but shares are obtainable at \$127. Hotels remain quiet and more or less out of the market, although small lots are wanted and unobtainable at quotation. West Points have ruled steady at \$47, without much business and close slightly firmer with sales and buyers at that rate. Humphreys have improved to \$9.85, after sales at \$9.75 and \$9.80. Kowloon Lands are on offer at \$26 without finding buyers.

COTTONS.—Hongkongs have again changed changed hands at \$36½. In the absence of local business in the Shanghai mills quotations are taken from the last Shanghai circulars.

MISCELLANEOUS.—Green Islands have been dealt in to a fair extent at \$29½ for cash and at about equivalent sales forward to July, market closing steady at \$29½. Holders should note that their names must be on the register by the 10th inst. to secure the proposed new issue of Capital. Watsons have been placed at \$16½. Ices at \$165 and \$166. China Providents at \$960 and \$975.

Closing quotations are as follows:—

COMPANY.	PAID UP.	QUOTATIONS.
Banks—		sellers (\$322).
Hongkong & Shanghai	\$125	318 p. ct. prem.—
China & Japan, ordy.	\$4	\$1, buyers
Do., deferred	\$1	\$5 5s.
Natl. Bank of China		
B. Shares	\$8	\$28, buyers
Four. Shares	\$8	\$24, buyers
Bell's Asbestos E. A.	\$1	nominal
Campbell, Moore & Co.	\$10	\$16
China Prov. L. & M.	\$10	\$9 75, buyers
China Sugar	\$100	\$130, sales
Cotton Mills—		
Ewo	Tls. 100	Tls. 70.
International	Tls. 100	Tls. 70.
Laou Kung Mow	Tls. 100	Tls. 70.
Soychee	Tls. 500	Tls. 400.
Yahloong	Tls. 100	Tls. 57.
Hongkong	\$100	\$37, buyers
Dairy Farm	\$6	\$6, buyers
Fenwick & Co., Geo.	\$25	\$18, sellers
Green Island Cement	\$0	\$29, ex div., bys.
H. & C. Bakery	\$0	\$50.
Hongkong & C. Gas	\$10	\$127.
Hongkong Electric	\$10	\$12, sellers
H. H. L. Tramways	\$100	\$215.
Hongkong Hotel	\$50	\$122, buyers
Hongkong Ice	\$25	\$166, buyers
H. & K. Wharf & G.	\$50	\$61, buyers
Hongkong Rope	\$50	\$325, sellers
H. & W. Dock	\$125	\$40 p. ct. prem.—
Insurance—		[\$750.]
Canton	\$50	\$130, sales & sellers
China Fire	\$20	\$80, sales
China Traders	\$25	\$54, sellers
Hongkong Fire	\$50	\$97.
North-China	\$25	Tls. 170, sellers
Straits	\$20	\$1, buyers
Union	\$50	\$235, buyers
Yangtze	\$60	\$142, sellers
Land and Building—		
Hongkong Land Inv.	\$50	\$127, sellers
Humphreys Estate	\$10	\$9.85, buyers
Kowloon Land & B.	\$30	\$26, sellers
West Point Building	\$50	\$47, buyers
Luzon Sugar	\$100	\$42, sellers
Mining—		
Charbonnages	Fcs. 250	\$320, sales, sellers
Gr. Estn. & Cdonian	\$5	70 cts., sellers, New
Do. Preference	\$1	40 cts.
Jebeu	\$5	\$12.00, sellers
Queen's Mines Ltd.	25c.	20 c., sales & sells.
Olivers Mines, A.	\$5	\$5, sellers
Do. B.	\$4	\$1.50, sellers
Punjom	\$6	\$7.80.
Do. Preference	\$1	\$1.40.
Rauha	15s. 10d.	\$60, sellers
New Amoy Dock	\$61	\$204, ex div., bys.
Steamship Coys.—		
China and Manila	\$50	\$100, sales
China Mutual Pref.	\$10	\$10.10, sellers
China Ordinary	\$10	\$10.10, sellers
Do.	\$5	\$5, 5s., sellers
Douglas Steamship	\$50	\$51, sellers
H., Canton and M.	\$15	\$30, sellers
Indo-China S. N.	\$10	\$92, buyers
Shell Transport and		
Trading Co. (S. N.)	\$100	\$280.
Star Ferry	\$71	\$18, sellers
Tebrau Planting Co.	\$5	\$5, sellers
Do.	\$3	\$3.
United Asbestos	\$2	\$6, buyers
Do.	\$10	\$11.
Wanchai Warehouse	\$37	\$47, buyers
Watkins, Ltd.	\$10	\$104, buyers
Watson & Co., A. S.	\$10	\$164, buyers

J. Y. V. VERNON, Broker.

VESSELS ON THE BERTH.

For LONDON.—Glaucus (str.), Prometheus (str.), Java (str.), Massilia (str.), Machaon (str.).
 For MARSEILLES.—Tonkin (str.), Kawachi Maru (str.), Massilia (str.).
 For BREMEN.—Weimar (str.).
 For LIVERPOOL DIRECT.—Hector (str.).
 For HAVRE AND HAMBURG.—Königsberg (str.), Heidelberg (str.), Sibiria (str.), Hamburg (str.), Andalusia (str.).
 For VICTORIA, B.C.—Tosa Maru (str.), Kinshiu Maru (str.).
 For VANCOUVER VIA SHANGHAI.—Empress of India (str.).
 For PORTLAND, O.—Nonmouthshire (str.).
 For SAN FRANCISCO.—City of Peking (str.), Gaelic (str.), America Maru (str.).
 For NEW YORK.—Pathan (str.), Loostakken (str.).
 For SAN DIEGO AND KORE.—Energia (str.).
 For TRIESTE VIA PORTS OF CALL.—Urano (str.).
 For AUSTRALIA.—Chingta (str.).

SHIPPING.

ARRIVALS AND DEPARTURES SINCE LAST MAIL.

HONGKONG.

March—
 30, Hongkong, French str., from Haiphong.
 31, Choyang, British str., from Canton.
 31, Hermes, Norwegian str., from Hongay.
 31, Plover, British gnuboat, from Manila.
 31, Nanyong, British str., from Singapore.
 31, Hiansang, British str., from Tagal.
 31, Pakshan, British str., from Singapore.
 31, Fushun, Chinese str., from Canton.
 31, Trym, Norwegian str., from Canton.
 31, Kwangping, Chinese str., from Canton.

April—
 1, Chinkiang, British str., from Canton.
 1, Fooksang, British str., from Canton.
 1, Broadmayne, Brit. str., from Pulo Sambol.
 1, Petriana, British str., from Balak Papan.
 1, Haiching, British str., from Swatow.
 1, Formosa, British str., from Tamsui.
 1, Quarta, German str., from Bangkok.
 1, Sanuki Maru, Jap. str., from Singapore.
 1, Tosa Maru, Japanese str., from Seattle.
 2, Beuvens, British str., from Saigon.
 2, Glaucus, British str., from Amoy.
 2, Hue, French str., from Haiphong.
 2, Kwangse, British str., from Tientsin.
 2, Macduff, British str., from Saigon.
 2, Saxonia, German str., from Kutchinotau.
 2, Sungkiang, British str., from Manila.
 3, Whampoa, British str., from Java.
 3, Kingsing, British str., from Wuhu.
 3, Thales, British str., from Taiwanfoo.
 3, Argyll, British str., from Singapore.
 3, Konig Albert, Ger. str., from Yokohama.
 3, Chunsang, British str., from Canton.
 3, Hermes, Norwegian str., from Canton.
 3, Lovstakken, Norw. str., from Tientsin.
 4, Clara, German str., from Hoihow.
 4, Energia, British str., from Moji.
 4, Ichang, British str., from Wuhu.
 4, Loongmoon, German str., from Shanghai.
 4, Tai Lee, German str., from Saigon.
 4, Cheangchow, British str., from Straits.
 4, America Maru, Jap. str., from San Francisco.
 4, Chingta, British str., from Kobe.
 4, Tamsui Maru, Jap. str., from Tamsui.
 4, Stanfield, British bark, from Rajang.
 4, Java, British str., from Yokohama.
 5, Sikh, British str., from Moji.
 5, Eastern, British str., from Australia.
 5, Haitan, British str., from Coast Ports.
 5, Wingsang, British str., from Shanghai.
 5, Ayr, British str., from Moji.
 5, Daphne, German str., from Moji.
 5, Hoihao, French str., from Hoihow.
 5, Kumsang, British str., from Calcutta.
 5, Nanchang, British str., from Taku.
 5, Prinz Heinrich, Ger. str., from Bremen.
 5, Produce, Norwegian str., from Singakore.
 5, Shansi, British str., from Canton.
 5, Konigsberg, German str., from Hamburg.
 6, Diamante, British str., from Manila.
 6, Formosa, British str., from Swatow.
 6, Urano, Austrian str., from Shanghai.
 6, Baron Androssan, British str., from Moji.

March—
 31, Parramatta, British str., for Europe.
 31, Bankoku Maru, Jap. str., for Hongay.
 31, Else, German str., for Chefoo.
 31, Glenfalloch, British str., for Amoy.
 31, Apenrade, German str., for Haiphong.
 31, Hailan, French str., for Hoihow.
 31, Toyo Maru, Japanese str., for Moji.
 31, Trym, Norwegian str., for Chefoo.
 31, Glenfarg, British str., for Shanghai.
 31, Olympia, American str., for Tacoma.
 31, Lyeemoon, German str., for Shanghai.
 31, Tritos, German str., for Singapore.
 31, Bengal, British str., for Shanghai.
 31, Rosetta, British str., for Yokohama.
 31, Monadnock, U.S. monitor, for Manila.
 31, Newark, U.S. cruiser, for Manila.

April—
 1, Maidzuru Maru, Jap. str., for Swatow.
 1, Haimun, British str., for Swatow.
 1, City of London, British str., for Saigon.
 1, Piayang, German str., for Hongay.
 1, P. C. Klao, British str., for Bangkok.
 1, Asturia, German str., for New York.
 1, Choyang, British str., for Swatow.
 1, Taiwan Maru, Japanese str., for Moji.
 2, Tategami Maru, Japanese str., for Moji.
 2, St. Regulis, British str., for Yokohama.
 2, Korea, Russian str., for Port Arthur.

2, Fushun, Chinese str., for Shanghai.
 2, Kwangse, British str., for Canton.
 2, Menmuir, British str., for Manila.
 3, Haiching, British str., for Swatow.
 3, Chinkiang, British str., for Ningpo.
 3, Yuensang, British str., for Manila.
 3, Sanuki Maru, Japanese str., for Kobe.
 3, Lady Joicey, British str., for Hongay.
 3, Erle J. Ray, Amr. bk., for Honksh Bay.
 3, Fooksang, British str., for Fochow.
 3, Nanyong, British str., for Amoy.
 3, Hongkong, French str., for Haiphong.
 3, Chwnshan, British str., for Singapore.
 4, Empress of China, Brit. str., for V'couver.
 4, Konig Albert, German str., for Europe.
 4, Formosa, British str., for Swatow.
 4, Decima, German str., for Saigon.
 4, Glaucus, British str., for London.
 4, Petriana, British str., for Shanghai.
 4, Loongmoon, German str., for Canton.
 4, P. C. C. Klao, British str., for Bangkok.
 4, Kingsing, British str., for Canton.
 5, Coptic, British str., for San Francisco.
 5, Victoria, Swedish str., for Chefoo.
 5, Thales, British str., for Swatow.
 5, Argyll, British str., for Shanghai.
 5, Hermes, Norw. str., for Hongay.
 5, Chungsang, British str., for Swatow.
 5, Hue, French str., for Hoihow.
 5, Kwangping, Chinese str., for Tientsin.
 5, Saxonia, German str., for Saigon.
 5, Carlo Alberto, Italian cr., for Singapore.
 5, Alacrity, British des. ves., for Weihaiwei.
 6, Lovstakken, Norw. str., for New York.
 6, Cheangchow, British str., for Amoy.
 6, Prinz Heinrich, German str., for Shanghai.
 6, Produce, Norwegian str., for Shanghai.

PASSENGER LIST.

ARRIVED.

Per Bengal, for Hongkong, from London, Mr and Mrs Moore and 2 children, Miss Parkhill, Messrs G. Hooper, J. McGashan, H. S. Coleman, Chin Chi and native servant; from Marseilles, Mr L. M. Mead; from Brindisi, Mrs and Miss Werner; from Ismailia, Dr Lund, Mr J. D. Lever and servant, Mr J. C. and two Misses Holden; from Colombo, Mr E. D. Evans, Mr and Mrs Gregory Bond; from Bombay, Mr C. and Miss Streetfield, Messrs S. B. Bomanjee and A. H. A. Rahim; from Calcutta, Mr Whitbread; from Penang, Messrs F. H. Bell and G. Marshall; from Singapore, Messrs Choo Leong Nam, Choo Leong Kin, M. O. Heishall, R. C. Parr, A. Maria de Carvalhos, J. Kerr, Mr and Mrs Wilcox, Messrs Juan de Santos and W. E. Keogh; for Manila, from London, Mr E. M. Kirkwood; for Shanghai, from London, Mrs L. B. Griffiths and infant, Misses Krockmorton, Reynolds and J. Rush; from Marseilles, Messrs P. McGregor, Grant, Leslie, Mrs J. F. M. Dunn, Messrs A. H. Hoath and G. Cohn and native servant, Mr and Mrs Glover, from Bombay, Miss Dobson; from Singapore, Messrs Hugo Marle, H. H. Young; for Yokohama, from London, Mr J. W. Paton, Mr and Mrs Rowland, Earl (Dr) Droggheda, Messrs Dougwall, Fordyce, Errington and Basil Rhodes; from Marseilles, Messrs M. and G. McGrath, Mr H. Baretto, Mr and Mrs Holliday and Mr S. Wheeler; from Penang, Mr G. A. Hall; from Singapore, Messrs R. A. Scott and G. J. L. De Berry.

Per Lightning, from Calcutta, &c., Messrs C. B. Jourdan, S. G. Newall, C. R. Hawes, S. S. Levy, Kurrimdane, W. S. Goolen, Mr and Mrs Judah and 3 children.

Per Formosa, from Tamsui, &c., Rev. P. W. Pitcher, Mrs. Pitcher and two children and Mr. C. H. Best.

Per Haiching, from Swatow, Rev. and Mrs. Whitman and four children, Mr. and Mrs. Hadley and two children, Master Matthews and Mr. Hay Yong Sang.

Per Sungkiang, from Manila, Messrs. Lufen, A. Jansen, J. Anthony, Chas. Grames and A. Freiman.

Per Loongmoon, from Shanghai, Mrs. Hermann, Revs. Doering, Baethke and Clausen, Messrs. C. G. Taillen and E. U. Taillen.

Per America Maru, from San Francisco, &c., for Hongkong, Mrs. E. V. Bookmiller, Miss Haidee Grove, Prof. de Lassommi, Mme. de Lassommi, Mlle. de Lassommi, Miss Alice Warm, Mr. H. F. Seymour, Lord Henry Thynne and valet, Mrs. Grant, Admiral M. Mori, Mrs. C. M. Knepper, Mr. A. W. Bohr, Miss K. Wilbur, Mrs. W. W. Gilbert, Mrs. W. E. Gleason and child, Mr. D. N. Hawley, Mrs.

M. Stanford, Miss S. L. Schwartz, Mr. H. S. Tittle, Miss Gutler, Messrs J. W. Brown, J. H. Kidwell, E. E. Jones, Capt. F. D. Evans, Mrs. F. D. Evans, Miss J. Clemmens.

Per *Hritan*, from Coast Ports, Messrs R. Bauld and J. J. Dnuno.

Per *Wingsang*, from Shanghai, &c., Messrs. F. Smith and G. Wiolmer.

Per *Java*, from Kobe, for London, Mrs. Franklin, child, infant and amah, from Shanghai, for London, Mrs. A. H. Reaker, 4 children and amah, Mr. C. and Mrs. Johnston, Master J. Johnston, Master D. Johnston, Mrs. William Cooper, infant and amah, Miss Law, Mrs. F. Rhodes, Mr. W. Pearce, from Shanghai, for Hongkong, Mr. L. Everhart, from Amoy, for Hongkong, Mrs. Johnson.

Per *Eastern*, from Australia, Brigade Surgeon Lieut. Col. Smith, V.M.S., Mrs. Smith, Miss E. Getty, Misses M. Brook, B. Heggibottom, S. M. Lyons, C. E. Belfield, Mrs. Reginald Belfield, Mrs. T. A. and Miss Mitchell, Mr. and Mrs. A. Lawrence, Mr. and Mrs. O. C. Shumacher, Mr. and Mrs. G. Parker, Mr. and Mrs. J. A. Cohen, Mr. and Mrs. E. D. Benjamin, Dr. E. B. Levy, Mrs. Willmer Harris, Miss G. K. Harris, Miss G. M. Harris, Miss C. Harris, Mrs. E. Thomas, Lieut. Col. W. H. Baker, Messrs J. G. Davison, E. Coleman, E. G. Crowley, W. Crowley, A. F. Hollison, A. J. Dease, W. Tappenbeck, F. G. Hollingsworth, R. G. Smithers, A. Stark, A. B. Skottowe, H. Gillard, G. E. Frisbie, G. W. Trimble, A. Levy, Jose M. C. da Silva, Mrs. da Silva, Dr. Joas M. de Etranjo, Capt. and Mrs. A. de Souza Calda and 2 children, Mrs. Maria W. R. Duarte and 3 children, Mr. Aloia de M. Silva, Lieut. E. P. de Feguido, Messrs Adelaide M. Almeda, Jeao de Veigo Late and H. Shapiro.

Per *Kumsang*, from Singapore, Mr. and Mrs. R. C. Wilcox, Messrs H. C. Wilcox and O. D. Thomson, Mr. and Mrs. J. E. Hay.

Per *Prinz Heinrich*, from Bremen, &c., Mrs. Mumm and daughter, Mr. F. Warcken, Mrs. v. Massow, Lieut. Fr. Beyersdorf, Mr. v. Boehl, Dr. Zeyes, Messrs C. G. M. Meyer, P. Koch and P. Scholz.

DEPARTED.

Per *Futami Maru*, for Manila, Lieut. T. S. Rodgers, Messrs Frank Meads, Francisco Maria Bayot, Rogacion Rodriguez, Emiliano Rodriguez, Jose Lim, Miss Luella A. Owen, Mrs. Jas. Macrae, Master Donald Macrae, Miss Dorothy Macrae, Mrs. L. M. Koehler, Mrs. Katie Merzhom, Mr. Joseph Godchaux, Mrs. Leontine, Messrs Godchaux, Ralph Platt, Miss Blanche Platt, Messrs Franklin Brooks, Henry Dallas, Mrs. Dallas, Messrs Bertram Hermann, William Fleming Vallance, Laurence Derrick, Miss Hettie Peel, Mrs. Florence Monk, Messrs John Ferrell, Andrew Martin, Mrs. Nellie Martin, Messrs Edward Phillips, Misses Muriel Alleyne, Ethel Hardacre, Mrs. Fanny Phillips, Messrs Arthur Percival, Duncan Munro, Miss Rosie Blair, Miss Owen Phillips, Master Paul Martin, Messrs Frederick Montagu, Mrs. Esther Montagu, Miss Birdie Montagu, Mr. Robert Stephenson, Mrs. Ange, Messrs Stephenson, William Palford, John Shroot, Ralph Denton, Wilson, Consul Hajie, for Sydney, Mr. W. Moore, Mrs. Dawson, Messrs Singleton, for Melbourne, Misses Denning, Messrs Galdwyn, Capt. Alier, Mr. Watson, for Brisbane, Mr. Wright, Mrs. Wright and family.

Per *Parramatta*, from Shanghai to Marseilles, Mr. Romeo Gritti, Mrs. Anderson and infant and Mr. Clifton, for London, Mr. and Mrs. Lavers and infant, Mr. H. F. Bell, Dr. and Mrs. Macleod and family, Mr. J. Paterson, Miss Fearon, Rev. A. Phelps and family, Mr. B. W. Daniel, Dr. H. R. Robertson, Mr. Gullan, Mr. and Mrs. Gove, European nurse and infant, Mr. and Mrs. Morse, Rev. and Mrs. Adams and family, Miss Hocking, Mr. G. H. Jones, Mrs. and (2) Misses Jones, Master Jones, Miss A. Gilbert, Miss Swanson, Commander Howarth Booth, Miss Barracough, Mr. and Mrs. Witzall and child, Mr. H. R. Kinnear, Mrs. Wallace and child and Mr. J. W. Glenny, from Yokohama for Colombo, Mr. C. R. Ashton, for Brindisi, Dr. G. Kanaki, from Kobe for London, Mr. J. Rankin, from Hongkong to London, Mr. E. Potter, Mr. George Arms, Mr. and Mrs. J. M. Beck, Mr. and Mrs. C. Ford, Hon. A. G. Wise, Mr. Jacob Vis, Mrs. Ackers, Miss Braidwood, Captain Wilkin

son, R. G. A., Inspector Scott, Mr. W. D. Braidwood, Mr. and Mrs. J. H. Follis, Mr. H. E. Coats, Mr. Louis Albenburg, for Marseilles, Mr. and Mrs. Ritchie and family, Mr. T. Meek, Mr. and Mrs. Satis, Mr. A. G. Stokes, Mr. A. G. David, Mr. J. Barton, Mr. Antonio Eignren, Mr. D. Macdonald and Mr. and Mrs. Greig, from Nagasaki for Penang, Mr. F. A. Stephens, from Hongkong for Singapore, Mr. O. N. Anderson, for Calcutta, Major Macdonald, from Singapore, Mr. W. E. Mouldale, Mr. E. Anderson, Hon. J. M. and Mrs. Allinson and family, Mr. and Mrs. Morren, Mr. and Mrs. Birch, Mr. and Mrs. Neave, Mr. T. V. Thomson, Mr. W. C. Southam, Dr. Ellis, Mr. F. S. Ezekiel, Mr. E. F. Edlin, Mr. W. H. Boyd, Mr. Cyril Bazendale, Miss Neave, Miss Bennett, Mr. Bennett, Mr. and Mrs. Farguharson, (2) Misses Farrar Baynes and Miss Brown.

Per *Bengal*, for Shanghai, Messrs. T. and H. Riedeman, Mrs. Robertson, Mr. H. B. McKerrrow, Lieut. Col. The O'Gorman, Mr. and Mrs. Meyer, Messrs. C. Mittmeyer, H. O. Drummond, George Tyson, Mr. and Mrs. Fearon, Mr. J. T. Hamilton, General Stahel, Messrs. D. Froiman, Paul Segal, Joseph Weinstein, Mr. and Mrs. Greenoff, from London for Shanghai, Miss Rush, Mrs. Reynolds and Mr. Throckmorton.

Per *Rosetta*, from Hongkong, for Kobe, Messrs. Whitbread, Lo Fan Man and Chan Lu Tunc, for Yokohama, Messrs. E. Drummond, J. Fraser, Kingsell, Wong Shu Hing, Wwong Man Wing, Mr. and Mrs. Ferrar and daughter, Mr. Samuel Robarber, Capt. and Mrs. Hatherly, Messrs. Wong Tit Sang and Chan Ching Lin, for Yokohama, from Marseilles, Messrs. H. Barrets and S. Wheeler, from Penang, Mr. G. A. Hall, from Singapore, Messrs. R. A. Scott and G. J. De Berry.

Per *Menmuir*, for Manila, Messrs. E. M. Kirkwood and J. F. Holliday and servant, Mrs. Glower and servant, Miss M. E. Nason, Mrs. Bolles, Messrs E. P. Hudson, P. Baldwin, Wm. Millar, Mrs. Arandes, two children and two servants, Messrs. F. X. Ferreira, Wm. Ryan, L. E. Bald and C. G. Williams.

Per *Yuenyang*, for Manila, Mrs. Carlos Gomes de Arca, Mrs. R. Sanguinsiu, Miss S. Ignacio, Master I. del Prado and Misses P. and C. del Prado, Messrs. Joaquin G. Lopes, Joseph Casademunt, Fred. Schmid, Jose Romero Salas, Mrs. James Maloney and Mrs. E. C. Tapia.

Per *Konig Albert*, from Japan, for Penang, Mr. and Mrs. Albersson and child, Mrs. Robertson, Mrs. Ojesang, Mrs. Foshe and Mrs. C. Wokasugi, for Colombo, Mr. Arratoon, for Port Said, Mr. Blasheff and Mrs. Nekrasch, for Messrs Genoa, K. Isurata, H. Debatty, H. Kimmenshing, Dr. Oga, Dr. Giotuku, Messrs R. v. Schonbarg, Donkowiez, W. Sutter, E. R. Daniel and A. Walford, Misses H. Hill, A. M. Perry, C. Weipert, Mr. and Mrs. F. Grosser and child, Mr. Dormer and family, Dr. Ikeda and Kumayai, for London, Misses E. Craig, Broad, R. Gilbert, Mr. and Misses Russell, Miss Neville, Master Neville and Mr. Fuller, for Hamburg, Mr. and Mrs. Sachse and Master W. Sachse, from Shanghai, for Singapore, Mr. Subbotich and family and Mr. Stein, for Colombo, Mr. Peart, for Naples, Hauptin v. Falkenhyn, for Genoa, Dr. W. Frisk, Messrs J. Wolder, L. Bussold, F. Lentz, Rev. J. Ross and family, Rev. W. Hunter and family, Mr. R. C. Tornaghi, Miss Aldridge, for London, Mr. W. Carlson and family, Mrs. G. Dallas and child, Mr. and Mrs. F. N. May, Miss May, Mr. and Mrs. W. H. Gillespie and child, Mrs. P. Smith, Mrs. Gibson, Miss Hoff, Mr. E. Claxton, for Hamburg, Mr. O. Menser and family and Mr. W. Limer, from Hongkong, for Singapore, Messrs G. C. Scott, F. W. Newson, Barlow, Mr. and Mrs. A. E. Pfankuchen, Mr. and Mrs. Heaney and child, Dr. and Mrs. Cantlie, Messrs A. Israel and S. Aboaf, for Penang, Messrs W. Speck and B. Hoetink, for Colombo, Messrs M. F. Fischer, C. H. Poincelit and C. Minim, for Genoa, Messrs A. W. Schellbass, G. A. Pfeetzner, M. Kulschora, B. Goldammer, G. Brusse, J. Jebson, P. Nagel, A. Rasmussen and family, Dr. and Mrs. Korn and child, Mr. and Mrs. H. H. Horsey, Dr. C. Buis, Mr. and Mrs. T. Reid, Master Reid, Mrs. A. Ritchie, Mrs. G. L. Duncan, Misses M. Johnston, Armstrong and F. Engel, for Southampton, Messrs J. Ahern, G. Byles and F. Richardson, for Antwerp, Mr. and Mrs. B. Heemskerk and

child and Mr. H. Siepen, for Bremen, Miss M. Bromver, for Hamburg, Mr. and Mrs. J. H. Brosh, Messrs H. Niejahr, O. Holat, R. Hansen, H. Battence and H. Petersen, for London, Mr. and Mrs. Douglas Jones and child, Mr. and Mrs. W. D. Graham, Mrs. Lawless, Messrs J. A. Jupp and J. Macgregor, Mrs. Hadley and child, Miss M. Macdonald, Mr. Barton, Mrs. Barton and child, Mr. T. F. Toyon, Mrs. Andrews, Mrs. Sutherland and child, Master E. Shaw, Messrs G. A. Lang, J. Robertson and H. Bremmer.

Per *Empress of China*, from Hongkong, for Shanghai, Lord Li Cheng Fang, Mr. A. G. Wood, Dr. Seyfert, Dr. H. Stinness, Rt. Hon. Bishop of Victoria, Messrs Gustave Achard, J. C. Kitching, P. B. and W. E. Sargood, Nils Moller, O. Struonmeyer, Lord Li Cheng Fang's servant, Mrs. Hoare, 5 children and nurse, Miss Cocroft, H. E. Sir Henry A. Blake, H. E. Lady Blake, Miss Blake, Lady Blake's maid, Lieut. Viscount Suidale, A. D. C. and Mr. H. H. Young, for Nagasaki, Mr. and Mrs. C. Rottenberg and Miss Osaka, for Kobe, Dr. and Mrs. W. J. A. Moss, Messrs J. G. D. Campbell, C. S. Owen and Inglish Stockwell, for Yokohama, Mr. T. F. Burgdorff, U.S.N., Pay-Insp. W. J. Thomson, U.S.N., Capt. C. E. Bancroft, Mr. J. A. Higgon and Mrs. J. T. Meyers, for Vancouver, Mr. Yip Hing, Mr. and Mrs. Yip Yow, Mrs. Yip Sang, Masters Sz Pui, Kow Sin and Kow Sum, Miss Chow Ling, Mr. E. S. Wheeler, Rev. F. W. Warner, Mr. Charles B. Jourdain and valet, for Seattle (Wash.), Mr. Chung Yui, for Tacoma, Rev. Geo. B. Whitman and Mrs. Whitman and 4 children, for Detroit (Mich.), Mr. and Mrs. E. W. Wilcox, for Toronto, Mr. Daniel H. Evans, for Montreal, Mr. J. C. Holden, Miss S. B. Holden, Miss Ella E. Holden, for Barbados and from Vancouver for Halifax, Mr. and Mrs. Kong Ying, for London and Paris, Rev. H. M. Bannister, Messrs Frank Browne, A. McConachie, Sir Thomas Jackson, Misses (2) Jackson, Mr. and Mrs. A. C. Henderson, Miss E. N. Henderson, Miss A. G. Shankland, Miss Bannister, Miss E. A. Stevens, Messrs Alex. Donald, W. Errington, P. Marshall, R. Paridant, Hugh Hill, C. A. C. Stratfield, Miss D. Stratfield, Mr. and Mrs. H. E. Howland, Mrs. Holliday, Messrs G. McGrath, M. McGrath, James D. Leyer, James Valet, Dr. K. F. Lund, Mr. and Mrs. J. Gregory Bond, Messrs Robt. A. Scott, Robert Valet, Moner. Goddard, Earl of Drogheda, Dr. A. Dingwall Fordyce and Mr. Basil Rhodes, for Queenstown, Miss C. P. May and Miss S. May, from Shanghai, for Yokohama, Mr. George Tyson, for Vancouver, Mr. and Mrs. Frank Burnett, for London, Mr. F. J. Newman, Mr. and Mrs. Charles F. Meyer, Messrs H. O. Drummond and C. A. Mittemeyer, for Paris, Mr. H. B. McKerrrow, Mrs. Radcliffe, Miss E. J. Young, from Yokohama, for Vancouver, Mr. Alex. McDonald, for Duluth (Minn.) Mr. and Mrs. Ward Ames, for New York, Mr. A. H. Roe, for London, Messrs Walter J. Smith, William Hartman, W. H. Hacking and Robert Fraser.

Per *Coptic*, for Shanghai, Messrs S. T. Cohn and native servant, A. Harmon, G. F. Varmal, Mrs. Morgan, Messrs Ah Chee and Kut Kee, for Nagasaki, Mr. and Mrs. Chas. D. Sims, Mr. and Mrs. J. Williams, Miss Williams and Mr. W. B. Jones, for Kobe, Messrs E. D. Sanders and R. Greig, for Yokohama, Messrs W. S. Ennis and J. Hance, for San Francisco, Mrs. A. B. Johnson, Messrs C. E. Huddy, F. A. Jacobs, A. F. Clarke, L. G. Beers, S. T. Cohn, Mrs. A. L. Warner, Miss L. F. Warner, Mr. M. O. Heiskell, Mr. B. C. Parr, Mr. and Mrs. Geo. B. Sperry, Master Fred Sperry, Mr. M. L. Smend, Mrs. T. Longworth and son, Mr. and Mrs. J. W. Morrison, Mr. A. M. Henry, Miss F. S. Henry, Miss E. F. Henry, Miss H. V. Adams, Mr. and Mrs. C. C. Carpenter, Miss Clara Carpenter, Messrs Chas. Longworth, Chun Mun Yuen, Mrs. Lei Lun See, Miss W. Worley, Mr. Lam Kow Man, Mrs. Wong She and infant, Mrs. Lau Sing, Mr. Lau Wing and Mr. F. Dougherty, for New York, Mrs. McClean, Miss Wardwell, Miss R. Wardwell, Mrs. A. M. F. Pitcher, Miss Daisy Pitcher and Master Albert Pitcher, for Chicago, Mr. C. P. Hayes, for London, Mr. Paul Merling, Mrs. A. C. Clarke, Messrs S. R. Bomanji, J. Hastings, J. Orange and W. B. Kelley, for Antwerp, Dr. Otto Graf.